



REA

## FRIENDS OF ACPL







The Hall in the Grove, Chautauqua.

# The ..... Chautauqua Year Book.

SELECTED AND EDITED BY
GRACE LEIGH DUNCAN

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### Introduction

In very tiny things, such as pearls and diamonds, that a baby's hand may hide, great treasures are sometimes held. We see displays of power, glory and beauty in the immensities which suggest the infinite; but these suggestions also come at times from the infinitesimal. Size is not the measure of value.

There are also in the world of thought and literature little things that souls with insight highly esteem; little books that outweigh whole libraries; single sentences that for beauty and wisdom transcend huge volumes of science and philosophy. Sometimes the best results of a century of history are wrapped up in a single sentence; and a poetic couplet or an apothegm may contain a world of thought and grace. To men who think truly and feel keenly, and who give vision to other men, there come inspirations which sometimes condense in terse, vigorous, penetrating and charming sentences precious bits of wit and wisdom which one once finding can never lose.

An appreciative soul, intent on service, may wander through these treasuries of literature, and gather for the profit of others, these living and life-giving sentences. And although

#### Introduction

it is not a new thing it is a good thing to do—this bringing into a single volume the best well-put thoughts of many volumes, where with slightest effort, day after day, and for succeeding years, one may see a wealth of wisdom flashing from every page. It is like finding on our pilgrimage, in a day of hunger and weariness, sweet honey which the bees have hidden in the clefts of the rocks. It is like taking for one's self, by royal permission, priceless jewels from the royal treasure house. It is like receiving, to plant again in congenial soil, seeds from a tropical garden.

Such and so precious are these choicest treasures from the great world's literatures. There is a threefold value attaching to such a collection: The thoughts themselves are strong and helpful; our knowledge of the author imparts an interest to these fruits of their genius; and the taste, experience and culture of the collector give an additional charm to the book we place within easy reach and every day open for our delectation and advantage.

May this book be as a hive of honey, a casket of jewels and a package of precious seeds to the people who receive it into their homes!

Sphithbruch.

CHAUTAUQUA, 1897.

Rich gift of God!

A year of time!

—Whittier

I have gathered a posie of other men's thoughts, and nothing but the thread that binds them is mine own.

—Montaigne.

Over land and over sea the winter reigneth,

Cold and drear;
In our hearts the song of snmmer sings its

anthem,

Sweet and clear.

Not death is here, but change. Each spark that gleams
Is pent-up sunshine, and the back-log's tune
Repeats the music of the woods and streams.
Bend low and listen; it is nature's rune,
Singing of summer, chanting soft of June.
—Richard Burton.

Be it done unto thee even as thou wilt. -Matt. 15:28.

"NEW YEAR, what have you brought us, Gifts for good or ill?"

"Take your choice," he answers,

"Be it as you will. Sorrows borne with patience Benisons impart,

But there are no blessings

For a thankless heart."

IF EVERY year we would root out one fault. soon we should be perfect men. But often it is just the opposite. We find that we were better, purer men when we set out towards God, than when for many a year we had professed our love.

-Thomas à Kempis.

SPEAK a shade more kindly than the year before,

Pray a little oftener, love a little more, Cling a little closer to the Father's love: Life below shall liker grow to the life above. What seekest thou?
—Gen. 37:15.

L IFE is an arrow, therefore you must know What mark to aim at, how to use the bow, Then draw it to the head and let it go.

—Rev. Henry Van Dyke, D.D.

To him that knoweth not the port to which he is bound, no wind can be favorable; neither can he who has not yet determined at what mark he is to shoot, direct his arrow aright.

-Archbishop Leighton.

LIFE always takes on the character of its motive.

-J. G. Holland.

So then, as we have opportunity, let us work that which is good toward all men.

Gal. 6:10.

DO good to all, that thou mayest keep thy friends and gain thine enemies.

BE useful where thou livest, that they may both want and wish thy pleasing presence still. Kindness, good parts, great places, are the way to compass this. Find out men's want and will and meet them there.

George Herbert.

BE careful to go strewing in and out
Thy way with good deeds, lest it come about
That when thou shalt depart,
No low, lamenting tongue be found to say,
The world is poorer since thou went'st away.
But make so fair and sweet
Thy house of clay, some dusk shall spread about
When death unlocks the door and lets thee out.

Alice Cary.

My cup runneth over
Ps. 23:5.

BLESSED are the Christians whose cup runs over. They are really no better off than the Christians whose cups are empty; but the one cup leaks, while the other is always full. Christ is pouring His blessing as richly upon one as upon another, if we will but hold our cup to receive it.

EVERY life-time—
Yes, the narrowest and most drear,
Is a cup that still runs over
With the gifts of God most dear.

WHEREFORE doth the Lord make your cup to run over, but that other men's lips might taste its sweetness? The showers that fall upon the highest mountains should glide into the lowest valleys.

For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed to us-ward.

Rom. 8: 18.

O RAINY DAYS! O days of sun!
What are ye all when the year is done?
Who shall remember sun or rain?
O years of loss! O joyful years!
What are ye when all heaven appears?
Who shall look back for joy or pain?
W. P. Foster,

What if the days are dreary?
What if earth wears no smile?
A gate will open outward
In such a little while.

E. L. Beers.

AH! little I'll reck, when the journey is o'er, Of the burdens and griefs I so dreaded and bore; They'll all be forgot as I enter the door.

I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness.

Ps. 17:15.

M AN'S destiny is not to be dissatisfied, but unsatisfied—always athirst for God.

\*\*Drift-wood.\*\*

THERE grows in every heart, as in a shrine,
The giant image of perfection.

Robert Browning.

Dwelt no power divine within us, How could God's divineness win us?

Goethe.

AH! never on earth do we find the best, But it waits for us in the land of rest; And a perfect thing we shall never behold Till we pass the portals of shining gold. Fames Clarence Harvey.

But he that is of a cheerful heart hath a continual feast.

Prov. 15:15.

WHEN it drizzles and drizzles,
If we cheerfully smile,
We can make the weather,
By working together,
As fair as we choose in a little while.
For who will notice that clouds are drear
If pleasant faces are always near,
And who will remember that skies are gray

If he carries a happy heart all day?

SERVE God and be cheerful. Make brighter The brightness that falls to your lot:
The rare, or the daily-sent blessing
Profane not with gloom and with doubt.

William Newell.

Why turn each cool gray shadow
Into a world of fears?
Why say the winds are wailing?
Why call the dewdrops tears?

Adelaide A. Procter.

For I the Lord thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee.

Isa. 41:13.

YOU are face to face with trouble!
No wonder you cannot sleep;
But stay and think of the promise,
The Lord will safely keep
And lead you out of the thicket
And into the pasture land;
You have only to walk straight onward,
Holding the dear Lord's hand.

Margaret E. Sangster.

CLING fast to the hand which is leading you. Though it be in darkness, though it be in deep waters, you know whom you have believed. Infinite love, joined to infinite skill, shall pilot the way through every strait and trial.

J. Alexander.

So whether on the hill-tops high and fair I dwell, or in the sunless valleys, where The shadows lie—what matter? He is there. And more than this; where'er the pathway lead, He gives to me no helpless, broken reed, But his own hand, sufficient for my need.

Henry H. Barry.

Depart from evil and do good; seek peace, and pursue it.

Ps. 34: 14.

EACH sin I cast away shall make My soul more strong to soar.

T. H. Gill.

Fix, by God's help, not only to root out your sin, but to set thyself to gain, by that same help, the opposite grace.

Rev. E. B. Pusey, D. D.

THE true way to attack vice is by setting up something else against it.

Sidney Smith.

SINS are easier kept out than driven out.

In their affliction they will seek me earnestly.

Hosea 5:15.

TRIALS make the promise sweet, Trials give new life to prayer; Trials bring me to His feet, Lay me low and keep me there.

BE assured that nothing is more incompatible with the fullest approach to God than the fulness of earthly happiness.

Lacordaire.

Poor soul! And don't you know
Without the work and strife and weary days
You would not long for rest? These are God's
ways,

That win you from the life below.

Let all things be done decently, and in order.

1 Cor. 14: 49-

N EVER step over one duty to perform another.

THERE is no way in which God's name is more guiltily taken in vain than by calling the abandonment of our own work the performance of His.

Ruskin.

If we do not do the work we were meant to do, it will remain forever undone. In the annals of eternity there will be some good lacking that we might have provided, some reward unbestowed that we might have had,

Anna Robertson Brown.

Whenever a duty is shirked, there Christ is rejected. Whenever we deliberately act as we know that Christ would not act in our circumstances, we proclaim disbelief in Him.

Stead.

And he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God.

Dan, 6: 10.

KNEEL down; it will rest thee to pray;
Then forward, for daylight is fleet.
Christina Rosestti.

Pray therefore when thy heart is light
And He has made thee glad;
Pray in the dark and stormy night,
When life has made thee sad;
Pray with the opening of the day,
Pray in the world's great rush,
And find repose in prayer to God,
In the evening's calm and hush.

Marianne Farningham.

The camel at the close of day,
Kneels down upon the sandy plain
To have his burden lifted off,
And rest to gain.
My soul, thou too shouldst to thy knees
When daylight draweth to a close,
And let thy Master lift the load
And grant repose.

For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, even so faith apart from works is dead.

Fas. 2: 26.

WORK is God's ordinance as truly as prayer.

George Dana Boardman.

THERE is no good in praying for anything, unless you will also try for it.

Rev. Henry Van Dyke D. D.

IF you consider anything worthy of your prayers and of God's attention, is it not also worthy of your effort for its accomplishment.

WE will pray, but let us also do, and do now. By waiting you may lose the little desire you have. Feeling without action is exceedingly dangerous.

Mary Lyon.

#### Fanuary 14

Beloved, let us love one another; for love is of God; and every one that loveth is begotten of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

I John 4:7,8.

OUR God is love, and that which we miscall Evil, in this good world that He has made, Is meant to be a little tender shade Between us and His glory, that is all; And he who loves the best his fellow man Is loving God, the holiest way he can.

Alice Cary.

To do for others in some sort
What thou hast done for me,
Since in such work Thy saints have found
A closer walk with Thee,
This will my Father glorify;
This happiness will bring,
For, serving others, I shall find
The way to serve My King.

Emma Stewart.

WHATSOEVER thing thou doest To the least of mine and lowest, That thou doest unto Me.

Longfellow.

Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, And into his courts with praise: Give thanks unto him, and bless his name,

Ps. 100 : 4.

KEEP looking for something to thank Go.

LORD, for the erring thought,
Not into evil wrought;
Lord, for the wicked will,
Betrayed and baffled still:
For the heart from itself kept,
Our thanksgiving accept.

William Dean Howells.

For all the ill that has not come
To desolate us, heart and home;
The unseen foes that lurk and hide
To smite us, Thou hast turned aside—
We thank thee, Lord.

And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us. Ps. 90: 17.

I WOULD my friends should see
In my glad eyes the beauty of His face;
Should learn that in his presence there is peace,
Strength and contentment, that can never
cease;

And that his guiding grace, Can lead to patience and humility.

As some rare perfume in a vase of clay Pervades it with a fragrance not its own, So when Christ dwelleth in a mortal soul, All heaven's own sweetness seems around it thrown.

Harriet Beecher Stowe.

THE serene, silent beauty of a holy life is the most powerful influence in the world, next to the might of God.

Pascal.

For we must all be made manufest before the adjument-scar of Canat : that each one may receive a things done in the bear, according to what he best done, whether it be good in bad.

2 Car. 5 : 10.

WHEN a man dies, the world asks, "What has he left behind?" but the angels ask.
"What good deeds has he sent before him?"
"Protons.

But when the day of judgment comes, we shall be asked

What we have done, and not what we have read;

How hely were our lives, and not how fine our words.

Thomas à Kempis,

ONE act of self-denial, one sacrifice of inclination to duty, is worth, as proof of a Christian, all the mere good thoughts, warm feelings, passionate prayers, in which ielle people indulge themselves.

Newman.

He that is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much: and he that is unrighteous in a very little is unrighteous also in much.

Luke 16: 10.

I WEPT and said "These crumbs cannot be worth

The giving unto any;

They are so small I will not cast them forth."

Then the Master said,

"Cast forth the crumbs I gave thee; they are bread!

Thou knowest that thy beginning I will fulfill: thy blindness cannot see

Our Father's law of using."

Helen Hunt Jackson.

Many a trusting child is cast down because the little love-service, which may be required, seems too small to be counted for aught in the great harvest-field; forgetting that the dear Lord asks of his children only so much as he gives them ability to perform.

Augustus C. Thompson.

LITTLE self-denials, little honesties, little passing words of sympathy, little nameless acts of kindness, little silent victories over favorite temptations—these are the silent threads of gold which, when woven together, gleam out so brightly in the pattern of life that God approves.

Dean Farrar.

Now therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt speak.

Ex. 4: 12.

## CHRIST'S biddings are also his enablings.

God never sends his children forth on any errand without equipment.

Justin E. Twitchell.

God always gives us strength enough and sense enough for what he wants us to do. If we either tire ourselves, or puzzle ourselves, it is our own fault.

Ruskin.

God's own hand is pledged to guide me, God's own strength my strength shall be; I have God's own eye to watch me, God's own ear to hear my prayer, God's own word to give me orders, God's own arm my loads to bear. From "Saint Patrick's Hymn."

Go and do as thou hast said.
1 Kings 17:13.

HE that gives good admonition and bad example, builds with one hand and pulls down with the other.

Rev. William T. Bacon,

PRECEPT is instruction written in the sand—the tide flows over it and the record is gone.

Example is graven on the rock and the lesson is not soon lost.

Channing.

EXAMPLE is more forcible than precept. People look at my six days in the week to find what I mean on the seventh.

Cecil.

Nor what we think or say, but what we do, will have its effect upon the world. Let, therefore, the thinker do and the doer think.

Rev. Rob Roy McNulty.

Thou hast given him his heart's desire, And hast not withholden the request of his lips. Ps. 21:2.

MAY every soul that touches mine,
Be it the slightest contact, get therefrom
some good;

Some little grace, one kindly thought, One aspiration yet unfelt, one bit of courage.

By every path where the children play, By every road where the beggars stray, By the church's door and the market-stall, Let not one sun go down and say, "She hath not planted a flower to-day." Rose Terry Cooke.

SUCH a heart I'd bear in my bosom,
That, threading the crowded streets,
My face should shed joy unlooked for
On every poor soul one meets,
And such wisdom should crown my forehead,
That, coming where counsels stand,
I should carry the thoughts of justice,
And stablish the weal of the land.

Julia Ward Howe.

A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another; even as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.

John 13:34.

"AS I have loved you," means love that is sweet and gentle to all men, who have many rudenesses and meannesses, who are self-ish and faulty, who have sharp corners and vexing ways.

Rev. J. R. Miller, D. D.

DEAR LORD, will it not do,
If we return not wrong for wrong,
And neither love nor hate?
But love—O Lord, our souls are far from strong,
And love is such a tender, home-nursed dove,
How can we, Lord, our enemies bless and love?

To love the whole church is one thing; to love, that is to delight in the graces and veil the defects of the person who misunderstood me and opposed my plans yesterday, whose peculiar infirmities grate on my most sensitive feelings, or whose natural faults are precisely those from which my natural character most revolts, is quite another.

Mrs. Charles.

Thou hast shewed thy people hard things.

Ps. 60:3.

DUTY comes to us as something hard, and we shrink from it. No one is a large man if he does not feel that his duty is larger than himself.

Dr. Alexander McKenzie.

It is generally in the way of duty that we find giants. It was when Israel was going forward that the giants appeared. When they turned back into the wilderness, they found none.

WHATEVER is coming, there is but one way to meet it—to go straight forward, to bear what is to be borne, and to do what is to be done.

DUTY is the great mountain-road to God. Follow duty if you would know the Christ-like calm in the presence of wrong.

Jenkin Lloyd Jones.

The Lord God hath given me the tongue of them that are taught, that I should know how to sustain with words him that is weary.

Isax 50:4.

THERE may be times when silence is gold and speech is silver, but there are times also when silence is death and speech is life—the very life of Pentecost.

Max Müller.

If your work is made more easy
By a friendly helping hand,
Say so. Speak out brave and truly,
Ere the darkness veil the land.
Should a brother workman dear
Falter for a word of cheer?

Do not wait with grace unspoken While life's daily bread is broken: Gentle speech is oft like manna from the skies.

And this is the judgment, that the light is come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the light.

John 3:19.

GOD gives thee a little light that thou mayest know thy duty, but he surrounds thee with much darkness that thou mayest know thy dependence.

Bishop Potter.

THERE is light enough for those whose sincere wish is to see; and darkness enough to confound those of an opposite disposition.

Pascal.

HE giveth day; thou hast thy choice To walk in darkness still.

Whittier.

Visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, upon the third and upon the fourth generation.

Ex. 34; 7.

THEY enslave their children's children who make compromise with sin.

Lowell.

You may think that you are willing to bear the consequences of your sin, but are you ready to accept the responsibility of the inheritance you are bequeathing to your children, even unto the third and fourth generation?

You may not be able to leave your children a great inheritance, but, day by day, you may be weaving coats for them which they will wear through all eternity.

Rev. T. L. Cuyler, D. D.

Be still, and know that I am God.

Ps. 46:10.

JUST to be still though tempests break;
To know he never would forsake
The heart he made to be his own;
To know he is not king alone,
But Father, infinite in care
Of every waif that breathes the air—
George Klingle.

THERE are seasons when to be still demands immeasurably higher strength than to act. Composure is often the highest result of power.

Channing.

In every life

There's a pause that is better than onward rush, Better than hewing or mightiest doing; 'T is the standing still at sovereign will. There's a hush that is better than ardent speech, Better than sighing or wilderness crying; i'T is the being still at sovereign will.

'The pause and the hush sing a double song, In unison low and for all time long. O human soul, God's working plan Goes on, nor heeds the aid of man! Stand still, and see! Be still, and know!

For this commandment which I command thee this day, it is not too hard for thee, neither is it far off.

Deut. 30:11.

WE are in danger of looking too far for opportunities of doing good and communicating. In reaching for rhododendrons we trample down the daisies.

Marion Harland.

Do what your hands find to do, but do n't reach out and take work that does not belong to you and which was never intended for you.

HE is a wise man who wastes no energy on pursuits for which he is not fitted.

Gladstone.

To seek responsibilities is foolishness; to shirk them when they come in the order of Providence is cowardice.

I will take heed to my ways, That I sin not with my tongue.

Ps. 39:1.

THE sins of the tongue are peculiarly hateful to God. It was a hasty word that shut Moses out of Canaan.

C. E. Cheeny.

WE should go through life as the traveller goes through the Swiss mountains; a hasty word may bring down an avalanche, a misstep may plunge us over a precipice.

From "The Presbyterian."

WE can with a few hasty words set loose a torrent of anger and uncharitableness, and cause the sweeping away of much good service and sweet fellowship, but who shall rule, restrain, or call back the raging flood!

Spurgeon.

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself.

Luke 10: 27.

IF Christ the Lord should come to-day,
As erst to Peter by the sea,
And low and tenderly should say,
"O, my disciple, lovest thou Me!"
To thee and me—
What would our answer be?
Margaret E. Sangster.

So . . . comes a human voice,
Saying, "O heart I made, a heart beats here;
Face my hands fashioned see it in myself;
Thou hast no strength, nor mayst conceive of mine;

But love I gave thee, with myself to love,

And thou must love me who have died for
thee."

Robert Browning.

BE strong to love, O heart!
Love knows not wrong;
Didst thou love creatures even,
Life were not long;
Didst thou love God in heaven,
Thou wouldst be strong.
Adelaide A. Procter.

Brethren, let each man, wherein he was called, therein abide with God.

I Cor. 7: 24.

WHAT matters it where the feet stand, or wherewithal the hands are busy, so that it is the spot where God has put you, and the work that He has given you to do?

EVEN the wisest are long in learning that there is no better work for them than the bit God puts into their hands.

Garrett.

That comes to thee in God's allotted time
Is just the greatest deed that thine could be,
Since God's high will appointeth it to thee.

Anna Temple.

# **J**ebruary

Bitter and bleak is the closing day;
The wind goes wailing, the sky is gray,
And there's never a bird on bough or spray.
James Buckham

We must live through the weary winter
If we would value the spring;
And the woods must be cold and silent
Before the robins sing.
The flowers must lie buried in darkness
Before they can bud and bloom;
And the sweetest and warmest sunshine
Comes after the storm and gloom.
Agnes L. Pratt.

All things are possible to him that believeth.

Mark 9: 23.

WEAK faith makes weak men.

W. Baxendale.

THE great workmen of history have been men who believed like giants.

Rev. C. H. Parkhurst. D. D.

What man believes he will do; and if he has no faith to guide his practice and impel him to action, he will only drift, and no man ever drifted into a good, useful life.

THE man, or woman, who believes well, is apt to work well; and Faith is as much the key to happiness here as it is the key to happiness hereafter.

Donald G. Mitchell.

Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me cast out the mote out of thine eye; and lo, the beam is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, cast out first the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye.

Matt. 7: 4, 5.

SEARCH thine own heart. What paineth thee
In others in thyself may be;
All dust is frail, all flesh is weak:
Be thou the true man thou dost seek.

THE man who has so little knowledge of human nature as to seek happiness by changing anything but his own dispositions, will waste his life in fruitless efforts, and multiply the griefs which he purposes to remove.

Colton.

If you would find a good many faults, be on the lookout; but if you want to find them in unlimited quantities, be on the look in.

Let each man do according as he hath purposed in his heart; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

2 Cor. 9:7.

WHEN you give, give with joy and smiling.

Joubert.

THE man who does not give cheerfully, may give all he has and yet not give enough.

GIVE cheerfully. Give a cup of cold water, a mite, a kiss, a word, a smile, nobly, as a disciple. That way of giving swells the gitt, and God will use it grandly.

Rev. A. T. Pierson, D. D.

God loveth the cheerful giver,
Though the gift be poor and small—
What doth he think of his children
When they never give at all?

Whosoever doth not bear his own cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple. Luke 14: 27.

FOLLOW thou me."
The way is rough and I am weak; How shall I know the Lord I seek? "Follow thou me."

> I follow thee. O loving Lord, this hand of mine Submissively I place in thine. I follow thee.

> > F. S. Child.

THOU say'st, "Take up thy cross, O man, and follow me," The night is black, the feet are slack. Yet we would follow thee.

Francis Turner Palgrave.

I DARE not lay it down; I only ask That taking up my daily cross I may Follow my Master humbly, step by step, Through cloud and darkness unto perfect day.

Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it.

John 2:5.

"WHATSOEVER!" Blessed Lord,
Am I ready for that word?
Is thy will so dear to mine
That the whispers of thy love—
Heard all other calls above—
Claim me, keep me wholly thine?
Search me, teach me, hold my heart.
Draw me to thy blessed feet;
There, in hush or service sweet,
I would live the better part.

M. Butler Gerds.

Worship or service—which? Ah, that is best
To which he calls me, be it toil or rest;
To labor for him in life's busy stir,
Or seek his feet a silent worshipper.
So let him choose for us. We are not strong
To make the choice; perhaps we should go
wrong,

Mistaking zeal for service, sinful sloth For loving worship, and so fail of both.

> I AM not eager, bold, or strong; All that is past; I am ready *not* to do At last—at last.

And God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him.

Gen. I : 27.

FOR good ye are and bad and like to coins
—some true, some light, but every one of
you stamped with the image of the King.

Wonderful, the whiteness of thy glory;
Can we truly that perfection share?
Yes; our lives are pages of thy story,
We thy shape and superscription bear;
Tarnished forms—torn leaves—but thou canst
mend them,

Thou thine own completeness canst unfold From our imperfections, and wilt end them.—Dross consuming, turning dust to gold.

Take all in a word; the truth in God's breast Lies trace for trace upon ours impressed; Though he is so bright and we are so dim, We are made in his image to witness him.

Robert Browning.

Yea, thou shalt search about thee, and shalt take thy rest in safety.

Also thou shalt lie down, and none shall make thee afraid.

Job 11: 18, 19.

N OW that sunset hours are nearing,
When night dews fall chillingly,
Comes the whisper, "Leave all, fearing
Child, and simply trust in me."
So I lay me down a-sleeping;
Night of life, or night of death,
I am ever in his keeping,
And he knoweth what he saith.

Hannah Coddington.

As a callow bird may rest
Swinging softly in its nest,
As a baby kept from harm
In its mother's folding arm,
So I rest secure with thee;
Even in sleep thou blessest me.

Rose Terry Cooke.

Thou hast no need to wake,
Thou art no sentinel;
Love all the care will take,
And Wisdom watcheth well.

Edward Rowland Sill.

In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in the darkness; and the darkness apprehended it not.

John 1 ; 4, 5.

H OW near a soul may be to the light and yet turn away from it and plunge into darkness! How blind to Christ's beauty it is possible to be, when engrossed with selfish aims and outward things!

Dr. Alexander McLaren.

ALL things have been given to us freely in Christ, but we may not yet ourselves have taken possession of all. When our hands are full of our own things we can not possibly get possession of the things of God. Only empty hands can grasp a gift, only empty vessels can receive the filling; and only the heart that is emptied of all its own things can receive the "all things" of God.

In the meditation of divine mysteries, keep thy heart humble, and thy thoughts holy. The best way to see daylight is to put thy candle out.

Francis Quarles.

Do all that is in thine heart; for God is with thee.
1 Chron. 17: 2.

DAYS for deeds are few, my brother, Then to-day fulfill thy vow; If you mean to help another, Do not dream it, do it now.

Nor many lives but only one have we,
One, only one.

How sacred should that one life ever be,
That narrow span!

Day after day filled up with blessed toil,
Hour after hour still bringing in new spoil.

Horatius Bonar.

AWAKE then! seize the present time,
And mark it by some deed sublime!
Smite down thy sin, bid sloth away,
And in thyself be great to-day!

Ernest W. Shurtleff.

NEVER delay
To do the duty which the hour brings,
Whether it be in great or smaller things,
For who doth know
What he shall do the coming day?

Surely they are disquieted in vain.

Ps. 39:6.

I MPATTENT people water their miseries and hoe up their comforts; sorrows are visitors that come without invitation, but complaining minds send a wagon to bring their troubles home in.

Spurgeon.

REMEMBER that trouble runs to meet those who go out to borrow it.

THE heaviest part of sorrow is often to look forward to it.

Rev. E. B. Pusey, D. D.

For eseeing is often worse than seeing.

George Eliot.

Let us lift up our heart with our hands unto God in the heavens.

Lam. 3:41.

I N prayer it is better to have a heart without words, than words without a heart.

Bunyan.

OUR truest praying is that which we cannot express in any words, our heart's unutterable longings, when we sit at God's feet and look up into his face and do not speak at all, but let our hearts talk.

Rev. J. R. Miller, D. D.

Thou dost not need to lay aside
The works that fills thy hands—
A thought can cleave its upward way
Where the Father waiting stands;
Thou canst be busy at thy task
And yet thy heart can pray.

Магіаппе Farningham.

A PRAYER in its simplest definition is merely a wish turned Godward.

Phillips Brooks.

I will meditate also upon all thy work, And muse on thy doings.

Ps. 77: 12.

OH, well for him who ever, day and night, Should only seek to feed on God aright. Christian Gregor.

As we hold a candle to the flame until it is fully lighted, so we must hold ourselves to Christ and his word by meditation.

Bengel.

THERE is no channel between God and us except our thoughts. If we had our thoughts fuller of Christ we should become more like him.

Rev. L. M. Clarke.

As we must spend time in cultivating our earthly friendships if we are to have their blessings, so we must spend time in cultivating the fellowship and companionship of Christ.

Drummond.

For hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, that ye should follow his steps.

1 Peter 2: 21.

FRIEND, thou must trust in him who trod

The desolate paths of life;

Must bear in meekness, as he meekly bore,

Sorrow and toil and strife.

Friend, do not thou despair,—
Christ, in his heaven of heavens will hear thy
prayer.

From the German of Uhland.

By the thorn road, and none other,
Is the mount of vision won;
Tread it without shrinking, brother;
Jesus trod it; press thou on.
Be this world the wiser, stronger,
For thy life of pain and peace;
While it needs thee, oh! no longer
Pray thou for thy quick release.

Dr. Samuel Johnson.

Wно goeth in the way which Christ hath gone, Is much more sure to meet with him than one That travelleth by-ways.

George Herbert.

Ye have heard that it was said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy: but I say unto you, Love your enemies, and pray for them that persecute you.

Matt. 5: 43, 44.

A<sup>SK</sup> thyself daily to how many ill-minded persons thou hast shown a kind disposition.

Marcus Antoninus.

That thou mayst pray for them

Thy foes are given:

I bring thee fretful friends that thou mayst train

Thy soul to patience.

Keble.

WERE all men saints,
What would be left for us to bear
At others' hands to please our God?
But now has God ordained
That we should learn to carry each the burden of another.

Thomas à Kempis.

He that seeketh findeth.

Luke 11: 10.

WE shall find in God's house just what we come spiritually prepared to find. God must be in the heart, or we shall not see God in the exercises of worship. We shall never find in the sanctuary that which we do not really seek and earnestly want to find. If we enter careless and indifferent, with no spirit of devotion, we shall carry away no benediction.

Rev. J. R. Miller, D. D.

ALL we want in Christ we shall find in Christ. If we want little, we shall find little; if we want much, we shall find much; and if, in utter helplessness, we cast our all on Christ, he will be to us the whole treasury of God.

Bishop Whipple.

CHRIST is not valued at all unless he be valued above all.

St. Augustine.

Seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated on the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things that are above, not on the things that are upon the earth.

Col. 3: 1, 2.

OUR expectations, our ideals, our hopes and intentions in beginning life are generally all too low. Many and many a one is only indifferently successful in living a strong life, because at the start the standard of what one ought to be, and the belief in what one may be, were set too low.

Rev. Charles Cuthbert Hall, D. D.

OUR safety is in having lofty ideals, and in constant labor to secure their realization. Let the getting of money be a man's ideal, and he will of necessity grow toward the dust.

Dr. Joseph Parker.

EVERY man is worth just so much as the things are worth about which he busies himself.

Marcus Aurelius.

Avenge not yourselves, beloved, but give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance belongeth unto me; I will recompense, saith the Lord.

Rom. 12:19.

IT costs more to avenge wrongs than to bear them.

CERTAINLY in taking revenge, a man is but even with his enemy; but, in passing it over, he is superior; for it is a prince's part to pardon.

Bacon.

HATH any wronged thee? Be bravely revenged. Slight the wrong and the work is begun; forgive it, 'tis finished. He is below himself that is not above an injury.

Francis Quarles.

Remember that in every quarrel the person who has been the least to blame is generally the most ready to be reconciled.

Bowdler.

Howbeit each man hath his own gift from God, one after this manner, and another after that.

1 Cor. 7:7.

ALL cannot charge or lead the van,
All can be brave and true;
And where the Captain's standards wave
There 's work for all to do;
And work from which thou may'st not flee,
Which must be done, and done by thee.
From "The Desired Haven."

Do the good and not the clever; Fill thy life with true endeavor; Strive to be the noblest man.

Not what others do, but rather,

Do the very best you can.

Do thy best always, do it now; For in the present time,
As in the furrows of a plow,
Fall seeds of good or crime;
And soon the harvest of thy toil
Rejoicing thou shalt reap,
Or o'er thy wild, neglected soil
Go forth in shame to weep.

Jones Very.

So then neither is he that flanteth anything, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase,

1 Cor. 3:7.

PLOUGH the furrow, plant the seed,
Watch it well, without surcease;
Water it in time of need,
For "God giveth the increase."
Nothing can thy work retard;
Labor on with heart at peace.
Oh, the sureness of reward!
Since "God giveth the increase."

Mrs. Merrill E. Gates.

Why fret thee, soul,
For things beyond thy small control?
But do thy part, and thou shalt see
Heaven will have charge of these and thee.
Sow thou the seed, and wait in peace
The Lord's increase.

We sow the seed,
God sees our deed,
And in his hands results all lie
We sow in tears,
And through his years
Our harvests ripen for the sky.
Rev. M. H. Coleman.

Be not afraid, but speak, and hold not thy peace. Acts 18 : 0.

IT may be a little thing for you to speak the one loving, earnest word that turns a young man from the wrong way to the right one—a little thing to you, but it 's everything to him. Such a word may be waiting for you to speak it to-day.

John B. Gough.

THESE trifles! Can it be they make or mar A human life?

Are souls as lightly swayed as rushes are, By love or strife?

Yea, yea! a look the fainting heart may break, Or make it whole:

And just one word, if said for love's sweet sake May save a soul.

THE kindly word unspoken is a sin. John Boyle O'Reilly.

My son, give me thine heart.

Prov. 23; 26.

OH, what shall I give to the Saviour
For what he hath given for me?
I'll give him the gift of an earnest life,
Of a heart that is loving and free from strife.

Eva M. Tappan.

My child, give me thy heart,
For I have loved thee with a love
No mortal heart can show;
A love so deep, my saints in heaven
Its depths can never know.
Vain are thy offerings, vain thy sighs,
Without one gift divine;
Give it, my child, thy heart to me,
And it shall rest in mine.

Adelaide A. Procter.

What more do I ask of you than to try
To give yourself anew to Me?
What you give Me else I care not;
I do not ask your gifts, but you.

Just as it would not be enough for you if you had all but Me,

So it will not please Me, whate'er you give, If you give not yourself.

Thomas a Kempis

For verily the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

Mark 10 ; 45.

HALF the world is on the wrong scent in the pursuit of happiness. They think it consists in having and getting, and in being served by others; it consists in giving and in serving others.

Drummond.

DISTRUST your own possession of Christ, if the desire of your life, the passion of your heart, be to gain, rather than to give. "The Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister," and as the Father sent Him, so has He sent Christians.

Rev. O. P. Gifford, D. D.

HE went in the strength of dependence To tread where his Master trod, To gather and knit together The family of God.

With a conscience freed from burdens And a heart set free from care, To minister to every one Always and everywhere.

Mrs. Charles.

I pray not that thou shouldest take them from the world, but that thou shouldest keep\_them from the evil one.

John 17: 15.

HE who follows Christ goes into the world; he who eschews society follows not Christ; but John the Baptist. To follow Christ is to enter every door that He opens to us; but to eschew society is to decline the battle, lest we be beaten.

Dr. Lyman Abbott.

THE problem of true Christian living is not to keep ourselves out of life's cares and trials and temptations, but to keep the cares and trials and temptations out of us.

Rev. J. R. Miller, D. D.

I CALL upon you not to despise life, with all its activities and yearnings and discipline, but to use it; feel that you have some real work to do, that your life is given for a purpose.

Reu Alexander B. Carver.

And the dead were judged out of the things which were written in the books, according to their works.

Rev. 20: 22.

WE learn from the twentieth of Revelation that the books with which we shall be confronted when we stand before the great white throne will be books which register not our creeds but our conduct.

Rev. C. H. Parkhurst, D. D.

CHRISTIANS are not those who merely subscribe to a creed, but those who foster a living aith.

PRINCIPLES are furrows to plant practice in.

'THE religion of Christ is not a law but a pirit; not a creed, but a life.

F. W. Robertson.

For he shall be great in the sight of the Lord. Luke 1: 15.

MY life,—is it unfolding According to God's plan, Or is it vainly holding To lesser scheme of man? Who serves, Christ owns; The cross he crowns. Awards alone await Him whom the Lord calls great.

Alice Armstrong.

To live well in the quiet routine of life; to fill a little space because God wills it; to go on cheerfully with a petty round of little duties, little avocations; to smile for the joys of others when the heart is aching-who does this, his works will follow him. He may not be a hero to the world, but he is one of God's heroes.

Dean Farrar.

ART little? Do thy little well, and for thy comfort know,

Great men can do their greatest work no better than just so.

Goethe.

But thou, O man of God, flee these things.

Timothy 16: 11.

Ir you have been tempted into evil, fly from it. It is not falling into the water, but lying in it, that drowns.

BEING tempted is not in itself a sin; it is only yielding to the temptation that is sin.

EVIL into the mind

May come and go, so unapproved, and leave

No spot, or blame behind.

Milton.

It is to the stoop of the soul that sin comes. Let it be upright, keep fast by its integrity, and there is never danger, never harm.

John F. W. Ware.

In the day of prosperity be joyful, and in the day of adversity consider: God hath even made the one side by side with the other.

Eccles. 7 ; 14.

I NTO all lives some rain must fall,
But we, who answer the Master's call,
Look to the sun in spite of fears,
See rainbowed promises through our tears,
Surely the Lord hath perfect right
To send the cloud-banks after the light.

Captain R. Kelso Carter.

TILL a man has learned to be happy without the sunshine, and therein becomes capable of enjoying it perfectly, it is well that the shine and the shadow should be mingled, so as God only knows how to mingle them.

George Macdonald.

It is true praise
To bless alike the bright and dark;
To sing all days,
Alike with nightingale and lark.

Rev. J. W. White.

February 28

Doth not he see my ways, and number all my steps f

Job 31: 4.

A MONG so many can he care?
Can special love be everywhere?
A myriad homes, a myriad ways,
And God's eye over every place.
Mrs. A. D. T. Whitney.

I WONDER if he really shares
In all these little human cares,
This mighty King of kings!
If he who guides through boundless space
Each blazing planet in its place,
Can have the condescending grace
To mind these petty things!

If I could only surely know

That all these things which tire me so

Were noticed by my Lord!

# February 29

Yea, Father, for so it was well-pleasing in thy sight.

Matt. 11; 26.

LET nothing make thee sad, or fretful, Or too regretful;

Be still.

What God hath ordered must be right, Then find in it thine own delight My will.

Paul Fleming.

RESIGNATION is putting God between one's self and one's grief.

Madame Swetchine.

GRIEF is a tattered tent
Wherethrough God's light doth shine;
Who glances up at every rent,
May catch a ray divine.

Lucy Larcom,

"Now what do the March winds whisper about?
Oh, tell us, kind birds, we pray!"
And the birds made answer,
"The March winds sing
That they're going to bring us a beautiful
Spring."

Julia Gordon.

Ah March! we know thou art kind-hearted, spite of ugly looks and threats,
And out of sight, art nursing April's violets!
Helen Hunt Jackson.

It is good not to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor to do anything whereby thy brother stumbleth.

Rom, 14:21.

OH, the multitude of hinderers! There are so many who block up the way to Christ—who do not oppose, but simply stand in the way of others.

WE should be stepping-stones to heaven, not stumbling-blocks. Christ revealed himself as the way, and we, as members of Christ, are part of that way.

Rev. J. L. Hurlbut, D. D.

WHEN you want to lead any one to Jesus, remember you must point, and take care not to stand in the way yourself.

Neither murmur ye, as some of them murmured.

I Cor. 10: 10.

I FIND the gayest castles in the air far better for comfort and for use than the dungeons that are daily dug and caverned out by grumbling, discontented people.

WHEN thou art afflicted, God will allow thee to groan, but not to grumble.

Gurnall,

GROANING and grumbling under your burdensdoesn't lighten them of one ounce of weight, but it does deprive you of that much breath which might be useful in carrying the load.

LET not the stream of your life be a murmuring stream.

From "Spiritual Gems."

My son, regard not lightly the chastening of the Lord, Nor faint when thou art reproved of him.

Heb. 12:5.

'T IS the Master who holds the chisel;
He knows just where
Its edge should be driven sharpest.

Margaret J. Preston.

When God afflicts thee, think he hews a rugged stone,

Which must be shaped, or else aside as useless thrown.

Dr. T. T. Munger.

WHY should I start at the plough of my Lord that maketh deep furrows on my soul? I know that He is no idle husbandman; He purposeth a crop.

Samuel Rutherford,

Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the bands of the yoke, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house?

Isa. 58:6, 7.

'T IS a fast to dole
Thy sheaf of wheat
And meat
Unto the hungry soul;
To show a heart grief-rent;
To starve thy sin,
Not bin:
And that's to keep thy Lent.

George Herbert.

To feel the throb of a new purpose, to stand before men a type of the Man giving sympathy, help, hope to all men—this it is to feel the Easter-time and live the Easter hope.

This is our Lenten task—the utterance of penitence and the opening of doors to God. It must be very sacred; not formal. It must be very reasonable; not unfitting the body for any good work, but making it a more and more perfect instrument for the soul.

Phillips Brooks.

Ye know not what ye ask.

Matt. 20: 22.

I THINK God sometimes sends what we have cried for,

Year after year in vain,

To prove to us how poor the things we've sighed for

And how beset with pain.

The human heart can know no greater trial Than comes with this confession,

That the continued sorrow of denial Was better than possession.

How awful would be our lot if the inclinations of our will were followed by fulfilment of our hasty desires, and sudden longings were always granted. One day, we shall bless him, not more for what he has granted than for what he has denied.

Cardinal Manning.

So pray we oftentimes, mourning our lot, God in his kindness answereth not; So cry we afterwards, low at our knees, "Pardon those erring prayers, Father, hear these."

Dinah Muloch Craik.

Now we that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves.

Rom. 15:1.

O, IT is excellent
To have a giant's strength; but it is
tyrannous
To use it like a giant.

Shakespeare.

MIGHT is right, say many, and so it is. Might is the right to bear the burdens of the weak, to cheer the faint, to uplift the fallen, to pour from one's own full stores to the need of the famishing.

Napier.

Has God given thee power over others either through wealth, station or prowess, remember that he has only made thee his steward and expects thee to use thy power with discretion.

For though he cause grief, yet will he have compassion according to the multitude of his mercies.

For he doth not afflict willingly, nor grieve the children of men.

Lam. 3:32, 33.

BE still, O heart! thy king will send thee
The clouds or sunshine as is best;
His own right hand shall e'er defend thee,
Then trust his love, and know his rest.

Jean H. Watson.

Days have been dark with clouds before, Then, too, the heart was weak and sore; But did he then forget? In hours of darkness he sent light, In hours of weakness he sent might; Then trust him, trust him yet.

God never would send you the darkness
If He felt you could bear the light.

Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down.

Ps. 37: 24.

BE patient with every one, but above all with yourself. I mean, do not be disturbed because of your imperfections and always rise up bravely from a fall. There is no better means of progress in the spiritual life than to be continually beginning afresh and never to think that we have done enough.

Francis De Sales.

WHILE we are not to forget that we have sometimes fallen, we are not always to carry the mud with us; the slough is behind, but the clean, clearly-defined road stretches ahead of us; skies are clear, and God is beyond.

THE past remains with us to remind us of our perils and our constant need of help, but it ought not to haunt and oppress us. The real life of an aspiring soul is always ahead. We are not fleeing from the devil, but seeking God.

Then they that feared the Lord spake one with another.

Mal. 3: 16.

GOD'S gifts a soul may selfishly appropriate, but God himself—the more truly a soul possesses him, the more truly will it long and try to share him.

Phillips Brooks.

WHEN God comes to man, man looks round for his neighbor.

George Macdonald.

EVERY one is a neighbor in the degree in which he is near the Lord.

Swedenborg.

Show me the man who would go to heaven alone, if he could, and I will show you one who will never be admitted there.

Owen Feltham.

For now we see in a mirror, darkly: but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I have been known.

I Cor. 13: 12.

THE best men, doing their best,
Know, peradventure, least of what they do.
Men usefullest in the world are simply used.
The nail that holds the wood must pierce it first,
And he alone who wields the hammer sees
The work advanced by the recurring blows.

Elizabeth Barrett Browning,

With steady mind thy course of duty run: God never does nor suffers to be done, Aught but thyself would do, couldst thou foresee The end of all events as well as He.

Charles Reade.

THEN be not clamorous, O restless soul,
But hold thy trust in God's eternal plan.
He views our life's dull weaving as a whole;
Only its tangled threads are seen by man.

May Riley Smith.

Inasmuch as ye did it unto one of these my brethren, even these least, ye did it unto me.

Matt. 25: 40.

WE can best minister to him by helping

Who dare not touch his hallowed garment's hem;

Their lives are even as ours—one piece, one plan, Him know we not, him shall we never know, Till we behold him in the least of these Who suffer and who sin.

Lucy Larcom.

HE forgot his own soul for others,
Himself to his neighbor lending;
He found the Lord in his suffering brothers,
And not in the clouds descending.

Whittier

WE can only do a deed to God by doing that deed for him.

William C. Gannett.

Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall in no wise enter therein.

Luke 18: 17.

EXCEPT you be like children And hold the skirts of love, You'll miss the narrow pathway That leads from earth above.

You can never find God by searching. You must come like a child; you are not asked to understand, only to accept and believe.

Haslam.

WILL you encourage your desire to lead a Christian life? It is not your tears, it is not your prayers, it is not your agonies that help to higher revelations of spiritual power; it is the simple question, Will you surrender?

COMING to Christ is your act; all the rest the pardon of sin and the work of grace—he attends to.

Bishop Vincent.

But judge ye this rather, that no man put a stumblingblock in his brother's way, or an occasion of falling.

Rom. 14:13.

OUR eyes are on the future, so we fail
To heed the little stumbling-blocks upon
our way,

That fret our own and neighbor's feet; we say,

What do small deeds avail?

From " The Christian at Work,"

THE little worries which we meet each day May lie as stumbling-blocks across our way; Or we may make them stepping-stones Of grace, O Christ, to Thee.

Anna E. Hamilton.

'T is not the great things that we do or say,
But idle words forgot as soon as spoken;
And little thoughtless deeds of every day
Are stumbling-blocks on which the weak are
broken.

I am purposed that my mouth shall not transgress.

Ps. 17: 3.

I have observed many who by speaking have fallen into sin; scarcely one who has fallen by silence.

Ambrose.

GIVE not thy tongue too great a liberty, lest it take thee prisoner. A word unspoken is, like the sword in the scabbard, thine; if vented, thy sword is in another's hand. If thou desire to be held wise, be so wise as to hold thy tongue.

Francis Quarles.

WHILE the word is yet unspoken, you are master of it; when once it is spoken it is master of you.

Proverb from the Arabic.

FOUR things come not back—the spoken word, the sped arrow, the past life, the neglected opportunity.

Hazlitt.

Things which eye saw not, and ear heard not,
And which entered not into the heart of man,
Whatsoever things God prepared for them that love
him.

I Cor. 2:9.

IF on the one side there is renunciation, on the other there are blessings beyond our richest dreams.

Mary H. Howell.

PEOPLE talk of "giving up" when they become Christians, as if they were to be losers, but the promise is of added riches.

Drummond.

As we climb Heaven's stairway we need not grieve

For the fine carved work of the step we leave. For brighter than all which has gone before Is the near approach of the Palace Door.

Mary Atkinson.

Happy is he that judgeth not himself in that which he approveth.

Rom, 14: 22.

# WHEN you doubt, abstain.

WHEN a man has not a good reason for doing a thing, he has one good reason for letting it alone.

Scott.

HE that allows himself everything that is permitted is very near to that which is forbidden.

St. Augustine.

THOSE who would not eat the forbidden fruit should not come near the forbidden tree.

But he that soweth righteousness hath a sure reward.

Prov. 11: 18,

THIS thought I give to you all to keep;
Who soweth good seed shall surely reap;
The year grows rich as it grows old,
And life's latest sands are its sands of gold.

Julia C. R. Dorr.

Phant blessings, blessings will bloom; Plant hate and hate will grow; You can sow to-day, to-morrow will bring The blossom that proves what sort of thing Is the seed, the seed that you sow.

If you prepare a dish of food carelessly, you do not expect Providence to make it palatable; neither if, through years of folly, you misguide your own life, need you expect divine interference to bring round everything at last for the best.

Ruskin.

Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?

Acts 9:6.

EVERY morning before we cross our threshold, before we make a single plan or appointment for the day, we must give ourselves unto our Father's business. We are not, as we sometimes do, to determine what we will do, and then devote it to God; but we are first to devote ourselves to God, and ask him what we shall do.

Dr. Alexander McKenzie.

THERE are two spirits of prayer; one that prays to get what it wants, the other to know what God wants it to get.

From "S. S. Times."

THAT life is most holy in which there is least of petition and desire and most of waiting upon God; that in which petition most often passes into thanksgiving. Pray till prayer makes you forget your own wish, and leave it or merge it in God's will.

F. W. Robertson.

Well done, good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will set thee over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord. Matt. 25; 21.

THE Lord said not "Well done, good and successful servant," but "Well done, good and faithful servant."

Rev. Newman Hall.

HE who is faithful over a few things is lord of cities. It does not matter whether you preach in Westminster Abbey, or teach a ragged class, so you are faithful. The faithfulness is all.

George Macdonald.

THOSE who think they have only a very small talent are often most tempted not to trade with it for their Lord.

THE great thing which counts in this world is not talents but faithfulness. Boast not thyself of to morrow;
For thou knowest not what a day may bring forth.

Prov. 27: 1.

WE should be from our clamorous selves set free

To work, or to pray,
We should be what the Father would have us be
If we had but a day.

Mary Lowe Dickenson.

To-DAY, unsullied, comes to thee, new-born,
To-morrow is not thine:
The sun may cease to shine
For thee, ere earth shall greet its morn.
Ruskin.

To-Morrow's fate, though thou be wise,
Thou canst not tell, nor yet surmise;
Pass, therefore, not to-day in vain,
For it will never come again,
Omar Khayyam.

Learn to make the most of life,
Lose no happy day,
Time will never bring thee back
Chances swept away.

C. F. Adams.

Their sound went out into all the earth,

And their words unto the ends of the world.

Rom. 10: 18.

SIMPLY to be in this world is to exert an influence—an influence, too, compared to which mere language and persuasion are feeble.

Horace Bushnell.

MAN, though mortal, casts an immortal shadow.

\*\*Jenkin Lloyd Jones.\*\*

This learned I from the shadow of a tree That to and fro did sway upon a wall: Our shadow selves, our influence, may fall, Where we can never be.

Anna E. Hamilton.

It is a high, solemn, almost awful thought for every individual man, that his earthly influence, which has had a commencement, will never through all ages, were he the very meanest of us, have an end!

Carlyle.

And I have also given thee that which thou hast not asked.

I Kings 3: 13.

GRAVE on thy heart each past "red-letter day"!

FORGET not all the sunshine of the way
By which the Lord hath led thee; answered
prayers,

And joys unasked, strange blessings, lifted cares.

Grand promise-echoes! Thus thy life shall be One record of his love and faithfulness to thee. Frances Ridley Havergal.

How many things are clear to us to-day
That yesterday we saw through mist of tears;
How many things are better than our fears,
What sunbeams through our self-wrought
shadows play.

We stretch beseeching hands to heaven and pray

That this, or that, be granted, whilst we plead; We turn with empty hands from prayer and say: "We are unheard, forgotten, lost indeed!" When lo! within our reach some priceless gift, For which imploring palms we dared not lift.

Harriet E. Pritchard.

Serve the Lord with gladness.

Ps. 100 : 2.

IT is a comely fashion to be glad; Joy is the grace we say to God.

Jean Ingelow.

And all the angels would be glad If, in the world he built, Although there must be some things sad No drop of joy were spilt.

W. B. Rands.

AND we may always be sure, whatever we are doing, that we cannot be pleasing him if we are not happy ourselves.

Ruskin.

They know not God that think to please him with making themselves miserable.

Bishop Hall.

Unto thee do I lift up mine eyes, O thou that sittest in the heavens.

Ps. 123 : I.

I IFT your eyes to you Day-giver, Look up higher, hoping still, Though the rain is on the river, Yet the sun is on the hill.

If the sun is going down, look up at the stars; if the earth is dark, keep your eyes on heaven.

In every house should be a window to the sky.

W. W. Story.

KEEP the upward windows open. Phillips Brooks.

Go thy way for this time; and when I have a convenient season, I will call thee unto me.

Acts 24: 25.

A LAS! this time is never the time for selfdenial; it is always the next time. Abstinence is always so much more pleasant to contemplate upon the other side of indulgence. George Macdonald.

To be always intending to lead a new life, but never to find time to set about it, is as if a man should put off eating and drinking from one day to another till he is starved and destroyed.

NOBLE desires, unless filled up with action, are but a shell of gold, hollow within.

Roscoe.

What I do thou knowest not now; but thou shalt understand hereafter.

John 13:7.

THEN be content, poor heart!

God's plans, like lilies, pure and white unfold.

We must not tear the close-shut leaves apart; Time will reveal the calyxes of gold.

May Riley Smith.

BECAUSE I was impatient, would not wait,
But thrust my impious hands across Thy threads,
And marred the pattern drawn out for my life—
O Lord, I do repent.

But in obedience and humility, Waiting on God's hand, not forestalling it. Harriet E. H. King.

If any man would come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.

Luke 9: 23.

THERE are many who would die for Christ, but in these times he calls for men willing to live for him. What is needed to-day is a higher heroism, a nobler, more costly martyrdom,—that of the living sacrifice, the sustained resolve, the renewed self-giving, the daily consecration.

Rev. Josiah Strong, D. D.

Ir is a great thing to love Christ so dearly as to be "ready to be bound and to die" for him, but it is often a thing not less great to be ready to take our daily cross and to live for him.

John Caird.

LIFE carries evil with it, but the remedy for the evil is not death, but more life, better life, higher life.

Dr. Lyman Abbott.

Stir up the gift of God, which is in thee.

2 Timothy 1:6.

THE best way to make a thing fit for the use for which it was intended is to put it to that use.

Rev. L. M. Clarke

It is not by complaining that we have not the right tools, but by using well the tools that we have. What we are and where we are is God's providential arrangement—God's doing, though it may be man's misdoing.

F. W. Robertson.

THE failures in Christian life are not due to lack of power, but to the failure to use the power that is in us.

Rev. George F. Pentecost.

Nor how much talent have I, but how much will to use the talent that I have, is the main question.

William C. Gannett.

The liberal soul shall be made fat:

And he that watereth shall be watered also himself.

Prov. II: 25.

A POOR man saved by thee, shalt make thee

A sick man helped by thee, shalt make thee strong,

Thou shalt thyself be served, by every lease Of service thou hast rendered.

Elizabeth Barrett Browning.

You never lift up a life without being yourself lifted up.

It is ever true that he who does nothing for others does nothing for himself.

Goethe.

THEN give to the world the best you have, and the best will come back to you.

Madeline S. Bridges.

And I say unto you, that every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgement. For by thy words thou shall be justified, and by thy words thou shall be condemned.

Matt 12: 36, 37.

N EVER a word is said
But it trembles in the air,
And the truant voice has sped
To vibrate everywhere;
And perhaps far off in eternal years
The echo may ring upon our ears.

Henry Burton.

The deeds we do, the words we say,
Into the still air they seem to fleet,
We count them ever past;
But they shall last,—
In the dread judgment, they
And we shall meet.

Keble.

You cannot recall the spoken word, you cannot wipe out the foot-track, you cannot draw up the ladder, so as to leave no inlet, or clew.

Emerson,

For a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.

Luke 12:15.

GOLD is but gloss,
And possessions are dross,
And gain is all loss,
Without love.

John Townsend Trowbridge.

THE wealth of a man is the number of things that he loves and blesses and that he is loved and blessed by.

Carlyle.

'Tis far better to love and be poor, than be rich with an empty heart.

Lewis Morris.

So, after all, 'tis better that we err
In loving overmuch, though oft deceived,
Than make our heart a sealed sepulcher
From which the angel turns away aggrieved.

After the month of the double face,
After St. Valentine's days of grace,
After the blast of the trump of March,
With a smile and a tear, with a tear and a smile,
And a heart half winter's all the while,
Here's the shy little month with her glances arch,
Here's the brave little month of folly!

Mary Bartlett Russell.

A gush of bird-song, a patter of dew,
A cloud and a rainbow's warning,
Suddenly sunshine and perfect blue—
An April day in the morning.
Harriet Prescott Spofford.

# April 1

Bring forth therefore fruit worthy of repentance.

Matt. 3:8.

FRUITLESS is sorrow for having done amiss, if it issue not in a resolution to do so no more.

Bishop Horne.

THE slightest sorrow for sin is sufficient if it produces amendment, and the greatest is insufficient if it does not.

Colton.

OUR repentance is not real, if we have not done what we can to undo our fault.

Tillotson.

To do so no more is the truest repentance.

Luther.

We must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.

John 9:4.

OH, the truth that is yet untold! oh, the songs that are yet unsung!

Oh, the sufferings manifold, and the sorrows that have no tongue!

Oh, the helpless hands held out, and the wayward feet that stray

In the desolate paths of doubt and the sinuer's downward way!

For a silence soon will fall on the lips that burn for speech,

And the needy and poor that call will forever be out of reach.

"For the work that ye must do, before the coming of death,

There remaineth, O faithful few, but a little while," he saith.

Washington Gladden.

THE Lord wants reapers; oh, mount up
Before night comes and says "Too late!"
Stay not for taking scrip or cup;
The Master hungers while ye wait.

Lowell.

Where hast thou gleaned to-day? and where wroughtest thou?

Ruth 2: 19.

WHERE hast thou been toiling all day, sweet heart,

That thy brow is burdened and sad? The Master's work may make weary feet, But it leaves the spirit glad.

Mrs. Charles.

AT eventide search through your ways—What you have said this day,
What done, what thought;
For more than once you may have sinned
Against your neighbor and your God.

Thomas à Kempis.

Look thou within, my thoughtless heart, and say
What thou hast done in this most precious day,
No longer thine to use in any way.
Hast thou been faithful to the truth and right?
Hast helped to make another's burden light?
Art thou a better heart than yesternight?
Alas, alas! But wilt thou some time be
Good, noble, earnest, grand in ministry?
To-morrow's sunset gun may knell for thee.

Paul Pastnor.

And which of you by being anxious can add a cubit unto his stature? If then ye are not able to do even that which is least, why are ye anxious concerning the rest?

Luke 12: 25, 26.

HALF our dangers are unsuspected—and we are troubled and cast down with imaginary ones.

SOME of your hurts you have cured, And the sharpest you still have survived; But what torment of grief you endured From evils which never arrived.

Emerson.

WE often give ourselves a great deal of trouble, and lose much peace, by worrying over questions which can only be solved by time, and will be so if we have patience.

Rev. Alexander McLaren, D. D.

I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin will I remember no more.

Fer. 31:34.

FOR 't is sweet to stammer one letter of the Eternal's language;—on earth it is called Forgiveness.

Long fellow.

A FORGIVENESS ought to be like a cancelled note, torn in two and burned up, so that it never can be shown against the man.

Henry Ward Beecher.

THOSE who say they will forgive but can't forget an injury, simply bury the hatchet while they leave the handle out, ready for immediate use.

Dwight L. Moody.

Good to forgive; Best to forget.

Robert Browning.

For thou, even thou only, knowest the hearts of all the children of men.

I Kings 8: 39.

AM glad that perfection is not the test of discipleship. We may be full of faults. We go on stumbling every day. We do nothing beautiful. We misrepresent the Christ whose name we bear. We hurt the friends we want to help. Christ knows all these sad failures. But, while he sees the worst, he sees also the best, and he loves on—loves unto the uttermost.

Rev. J. R. Miller, D. D.

God does n't care for what is on the outside; the cares for what is inside.

Rev. Maltbie Babcock.

THINK not yourself a better man than others, Lest you be thought (may be) a worse one in . God's sight.

He knows what lies in man.

Thomas a Kempis.

Pay that which thou vowest. Better is it that thou shouldest not vow, than that thou shouldest vow and not pay.

Eccles. 5: 4, 5.

WE dare on God's consuming altar coals to

(Driven by the prick of conscience to obey)
The whited sacrifice, the hollow prayer,
In place of what we vowed in our despair,
Of best and holiest;—glad no mortal may
Pierce through the cheat, and hoping half to stay
That eye before whose search all souls are bare.

\*Margaret J. Preston.\*

Many a man whose word is as good as his bond among his fellow-men, fails to pay his yows unto God.

Millard.

WE are, for the most part, inconstant as Esau, full of good resolves to-day, and to-morrow throwing them to the winds; to-day, proud of the arduousness of our calling, and girding ourselves to self-control and self-denial; to-morrow, sinking back to softness and self-indulgence. Not once, as Esau, but again and again, we barter peace of conscience, and fellowship with God, and the hope of holiness, for what is, in simple fact, no more than a bowl of pottage.

Rev. Marcus Dods, D. D.

Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Fames 4: 8.

REACH up as far as you can and God will reach down all the rest of the way.

Bishop Vincent.

If one draw near
Unto God—with praise and prayer—
Half a cubit, God will go
Twenty leagues to meet him so.

Edwin Arnold.

God cannot be drawn nearer to us by prayer, but prayer draws us nearer to God.

FAITH is not a reaching out into the air, or, the aspiration of the soul for its Creator whom it must find in the remote heavens. It is the direct approach of the heart to God as he comes to us, that he may be known and loved.

Rev. Alexander McKenzie, D. D.

How precious is thy lovingkindness, O God! And the children of men take refuge under the shadow of thy wings.

Ps. 36:7.

A FFLICTIONS are but the shadow of his wing.

George Macdonald.

MANY a cloud into whose shadow we have entered with trembling, has proved to be but the folds of God's garments as he drew near with a blessing.

The very cloud that shades the life may be the means of irrigating it.

Is there a grief in your heart which groweth into a sore pain? Is there a shadow of a coming sorrow? Remember it is the shadow of God's wing and therefore a safe shadow, and creep closer under it and yet closer.

Rev. J. R. Miller, D. D.

I will make mention of the lovingkindness of the Lord, and the praises of the Lord, according to all the Lord hath bestowed on us; and the great goodness toward the house of Israel, which he hath bestowed on them according to his mercies, and according to the multitude of his lovingkindnesses.

Isa. 63: 7.

WE make a great ado about our hardships, but how little we talk of our blessings!

T. DeWitt Talmage.

LET us inventory our mercies and bury our trials under them.

Rev. Theodore L. Cuyler, D. D.

WERE half the breath in murmurings spent To heaven in supplication sent, Your cheerful song would oft'ner be,

"Hear what the Lord hath done for me."

Cowper.

Casting all your anxiety upon him, because he careth for you.

I Peter 5 : 7.

OME closer,

Thou art not near enough: I would embrace thy care.

So I might feel my child reposing on my heart; Thou lovest me? I know it. Doubt not then. But loving me, lean hard,

Paul Pastnor

SEE that all thy cares be such as thou canst cast on God, and then hold none back.

Rev. E. B. Pusey, D. D.

HERE, at his feet, your burden lay, Why 'neath it bend another day, Since one so loving calls to thee, "Oh! heavy laden, come to me!"

Elenor Kirk.

THE Lord tells us to carry our cross and cast our care, but we often try to cast our cross and carry our care.

To-day, Oh that ye would hear his voice!
Ps. 95:7.

WHEN conscience whispers, listen!

CONSCIENCE is a sort of alarm clock to keep the soul from sleeping too long. Some of us grow so accustomed to its sound that we do not heed it.

Chatfield Taylor.

THERE is a warning conscience and a gnawing conscience. The warning conscience cometh before sin, the gnawing conscience followeth after sin.

KEEP your conduct abreast of your conscience, and very soon your conscience will be illuminated by the radiance of God.

Dr. William M. Taylor.

Singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord.

Eph. 5: 19.

THE shepherds sing, and shall I silent be?
My God, no hymn for thee?
My soul's a shepherd, too: a flock it feeds
Of thoughts and words and deeds.
The pasture is thy word, the streams thy grace,
Enriching all the place.
Shepherd and flocks shall sing, and all my

powers
Outsing the daylight hours.

George Herbert.

God misses any voice that is silent in the music of earth that rises up to him. And are there not many voices that are silent, taking no part in the song, giving forth no praise?

Rev. J. R. Miller, D. D.

My voice shalt thou hear this morning,
For the day is all unknown,
And I am afraid without thine aid,
To travel its hours alone.
Give me thy light to lead me,
Give me thy hand to guide,
Give me thy living presence
To journey side by side.

They helped every one his neighbour; and every one said to his brother, Be of good courage.

Isa. 41 : 6.

To ease another's heartache is to forget one's own.

Abraham Lincoln.

THE best comfort in our afflictions is found in rendering service to others. When we forget ourselves in endeavoring to comfort some other sufferer, we find comfort ourselves. We gain strength in giving strength.

THE next time that you are discouraged, just try encouraging some one else, and see if it will not cheer you.

WE should train ourselves to be ever encouragers of others, never discouragers. To discourage another is treason against love. No matter how hopeless any one's circumstances may be, we should ever be a helper, a lightener of the load.

From "Westminster Teacher."

Forbearing one another, and forgiving each other, if any man have a complaint against any; even as the Lord forgave you, so also do ye.

Col. 3:13.

H IS heart was as great as the world, but there was no room in it to hold the memory of a wrong.

Emerson.

IF in my heart has been
An unforgiving thought, or word, or look,
Though deep the malice which I scarce could
brook,

Wash me from the dark sin.

A MAN'S forgiving faculty is in proportion to the greatness of his soul. Little men cannot pardon.

FORGIVENESS to the injured does belong;
But they ne'er pardon who have done the wrong.

Dryden.

Yea verily, and I count all things to be loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Fesus my Lord: for whom I suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may gain Christ.

Phil. 3:8.

 $M_{\ \ All\ to\ thy\ mind,}^{\ ORTAL\,!}$  if life smile on thee, and thou find

Think, who did once from heaven to hell descend
Thee to befriend;

So shalt thou dare forego, at his dear call, Thy best, thine all.

Keble.

Thus must thou stand,
If thou wouldst walk with Me;
Ready for suffering as for joy,
As willing to be poor and portionless,
As to be full and rich.

Thomas a Kempis.

OH, how many part with Christ at a cross-way, like Orpah, that go a furlong or two with him, but when He bids them prepare for hardship, then they fairly kiss and leave Him; loath, indeed, to lose heaven, but more loath to buy it at so dear a rate.

Gurnall.

And he went forward a little, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass away from me: nevertheless, not as I will, but as thou wilt.

Matt. 26:39.

A LL those who journey, soon or late
Must pass within the garden's gate;
Must kneel alone in darkness there,
And battle with some fierce despair.
God pity those who cannot say
"Not mine, but thine;" who only pray
"Let this cup pass," and cannot see
The purpose in Gethsemane.

Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

BLESSED he who, following Christ into Gethsemane, follows him out of it by the same door; the door of a supreme consecration to his Father's will; the door of a prayer which seeks not to change the divine will to the human, but the human to the divine will.

Dr. Lyman Abbott.

MANY times God answers our prayers, not by bringing down His will to ours, but by lifting us up to Himself. We grow strong enough to no longer need to cry for relief.

Rev. J. R. Miller, D. D.

Let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ.

Phil. 1 : 27.

A LIVING, loving Christian—true of tongue, honest of heart, pure of conduct and yet lovable in daily life, is the most unanswerable argument for Christianity.

Rev. T. L. Cuyler, D. D.

It may not be ours to utter convincing arguments, but it may be ours to live holy lives. It may not be ours to be subtle and learned and logical, but it may be ours to be noble and sweet and pure.

Dean Farrar.

A LIFE thus setting forth the power of Christ in this present time is worth more than all the books of argument and all the lecture courses and sermons of a century in favor of Christianity. It is another Word of God, a living epistle read and known of all. . . It makes doubt impossible. Men simply feel its force and are silent—and then turn to pray.

Bishop Vincent.

But I know that my redeemer liveth.

Job 19:25.

SING a song of Easter,
A song that means a prayer
Of want and love to one above
Who keeps his world in care.
A song for all on this green earth,
For dear ones passed away;
Sing clear and strong the joyful song,
The song of Easter Day.

Margaret E. Sangster.

This my message, sweet and holy, "Tired souls forget your pain, Christ the Lord for you is risen: Doubting hearts, He lives again."

May Easter Day
To thine heart say,
"Christ died and rose for me."
May Easter night
On thine heart write,
"O Christ, I live to Thee."

Love one another from the heart fervently.

I Peter 1: 22,

So much we miss,

If love is weak; so much we gain,

If love is strong! God thinks no pain

Too sharp or lasting to ordain

To teach us this.

Helen Hunt Jackson.

SEE how, everywhere,
Love comforts, strengthens, helps,
and saves us all!
What opportunities of good befall,
To make life sweet and fair!
Celia Thaxter.

Beloved, let us love so well,
Our work shall still be better for our love
And still our love be sweeter for our work.

Elizabeth Barrett Browning.

Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

Gal. 6:7.

SORROW tracketh wrong, As echo follows song, On, on, on———

Sow thou sorrow and thou shalt reap it; Sow thou joy and thou shalt keep it. Richard Watson Gilder.

If thou do ill, the joy fades, not the pains; If well, the pain doth fade, the joy remains.

George Herbert.

It is the law of life that retribution Shall follow wrong; It never fails, although the execution May tarry long, And he comforted them, and spake kindly unto them.

Gen. 50: 21.

THEN speak the kind word to the nigh broken-hearted,

Shed light on the soul from which joy has departed,

Let the balm of sweet speech on the stricken heart fall,

Speak kindly to each one or speak not at all.

LET each day seem to me wasted, that passes without my having spoken of help and sympathy, without having made some one bless my name, be it but a little child.

From "Gold Dust."

HELP whoever, whenever you can;
Man forever needs aid from man;
Let never a day die in the west
That you have not comforted some sad breast.

Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

IF I can put some touches of a rosy sunset into the life of any man or woman, then I feel that I have walked with God.

George Macdonald.

Thou hast holden my right hand.

Ps. 73: 23.

MAUN, it is not our grip of Christ; it 's Christ's grip of us.

LORD, hold my hand as Thou hast said,
Not one, but both my hands instead,
Lest with the other I should cling
For help to any earthly thing.
How sweet the thought that comforts me,
'Tis not my fickle hold on Thee,
But Thine eternal, loving grasp,
Which holds me with a Father's clasp,

HOLD thou my hand, my Father; I am weak; Hush me to sleep, for I am sore afraid. Yet as thy child I should be undismayed, For in the silence I should hear thee speak.

Oh that thou wouldest bless me indeed, and enlarge my border, and that thine hand might be with me, and that thou wouldest keep me from evil, that it be not to my sorrow! And God granted him that which he requested.

I Chron. 4: 10.

GOD expects great things of you; take care that you do not disappoint him. Be ever expecting great things of God; he will never disappoint you.

Rev. Howard Duffield, D. D.

Take heed of expecting too little. You little know how much power God may give you over your besetting sin.

Why do my sins keep coming back to me? Because you trust in your penitence rather than in God's free pardon.

I have been crucified with Christ; yet I live; and yet no longer I, but Christ liveth in me.

Gal. 2: 20,

EFFACE yourselves; and the only way to do it is to stand in the presence of God, and be so possessed with him that there shall be no space or time for the intrusion of your own poor little personality.

Phillips Brooks.

CHRISTIAN has come to mean with many an infinitesimal semblance of a shadow of Christ and a whole ocean of self.

ALL the doors that lead inward to the secret place of the Most High are doors outward—out of self, out of smallness, out of wrong.

George Macdonald.

The denial of self leads to the narrow way.

Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our prows.

Isa. 53:4.

I NE'ER took up the cross,
But Christ my Saviour bore
The heavier end and all the weight
While leading on before.

Dost thou doubt my power?

Dost thou question whether

We, my child, can bear it,

Thou and I together?

S. J. Burke.

And when, beneath some heavy cross you faint, And say, "I cannot bear this load alone," You say the truth. Christ made it purposely so heavy, that you must return to him.

Freely ye received, freely gire.

Matt. 10:8.

THE silent soul that takes but gives not out again,

In shining thankfulness, a smile, a tear, Absorbing, makes none other glad, and misses so The purest and the best of love's rich cheer.

Mary K. A. Stone.

THERE is only one way to be happy and that is to make somebody else so; and you can't be happy cross-lots; you have got to go the regular turn-pike road.

Ir seems as if we kept part of that happiness which we gave away.

HAPPINESS is a roadside flower, blooming on the highway of usefulness. Speak not one against another, brethren.

James 4:11.

IF there is any person to whom you feel a dislike, that is the person of whom you ought never to speak.

If aught good thou canst not say Of thy brother, foe, or friend, Take thou, then, the silent way, Lest in word thou shouldst offend.

IF we can say no good of persons, we must say nothing of them. We must never speak of any one's faults to others until we have first spoken of them to the offender himself.

REGARD the absent as virtually under the protection of that law of Jewish Charity: "Thou shalt not curse the deaf."

It is good for me that I have been afflicted; That I might learn thy statutes. Ps. 119:71,

IN "pastures green?" Not always; sometimes he
Who knoweth best, in kindness leadeth me
In weary ways, where heavy shadows be.

Henry H. Barry.

AND yet these days of dreariness are sent us from above:

They do not come in anger, but in faithfulness and love;

They come to teach us lessons which bright ones could not yield,

And to leave us blest and thankful when their purpose is fulfilled.

THERE is such a difference between coming out of sorrow merely thankful for relief, and coming out of sorrow full of sympathy with and trust in him who has released us. Our eyes are upon thee.

2 Chron, 0: 12.

TO get our eyes off self and on him—that is the simple secret of increase of faith.

Rev. Arthur T. Pierson, D. D.

AH! sad will it be for us, if we say,
At the end of our task in life,
We wove a web of doubt and fear,
Not faith and hope and love,
Because we looked at our work and not
At our pattern up above.

AT Jesus look, if you would walk uprightly; Let his example be your daily guide. Go, follow closely in his every footprint, And let the way he went your course decide. \*\*Charlotte Murray.\*\*

LIKE Alpine climbers, our only safety is in steadfastly fixing our gaze on him, our Guide, and following step by step the path he trod, that he might know all the dangers and difficulties that beset our way. And we may be sure he will never lead us further or faster than we can safely follow.

Rose Porter.



Then came faire May, the fairest mayd on ground,

Deck't all with dainties of her season's pryde, And throwing flowers out of her lap around. Spenser.

Such a starved bank of moss
Till that May morn,
Blue ran the flash across;
Violets were born.
Robert Browning.

## May 1

Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, we have boldness toward God.

1 John 3: 21.

CONSCIENCE is a thousand swords.

Shakespeare.

THERE is no future pang Can deal that justice on the self-condemned He deals on his own soul.

Byron.

I know of the future judgment,
How dreadful soever it be,
That to sit alone with my conscience
Will be judgment enough for me.

THERE are many who stop the voice of conscience, but they cannot blot the writing of it. It is one of the books that shall be opened in the day of judgment.

For thou wilt light my lamp: the Lord my God will lighten my darkness.

Ps. 18: 18.

LORD, send thy light!
Not only in the darkest night,
But in the shadowy, dim twilight,
Wherein my strained and aching sight
Can scarce distinguish wrong from right—
Then send thy light.

Constance Milburn.

Arr thou in darkness? wait for the light; Or in the valley? look toward the height If in the tempest, trust for the calm; Utter no dirges, break forth a psalm. After storm-breasting

After storm-breasting Cometh calm resting.

And if we will our Guide obey, The dreariest path, the darkest way Shall issue out in heavenly day. Dean Trench. Is any among you suffering? let him pray. Fames 5: 13.

> THE darker the day, The more we must pray.

I AM the Lord that comforts you in time of trial.

Come unto Me when 't is not well with you. This it is that most of all stands in the way of heavenly comfort,

That you come so slowly to your prayers. For before you ask Me earnestly, In the meantime you look for many a solace.

Thomas a Kempis.

WE kneel, how weak! We rise, how full of power!

Why, therefore, should we do ourselves this wrong,

Or others, that we are not always strong? 'That we are ever overborne with care, That we should ever weak or heartless be, 'Anxious, or troubled, when with us is prayer, And joy and strength and courage are with Thee !

We have done that which it was our duty to do.

Luke 17: 10,

THANK God every morning that you have something to do that day, which must be done whether you like it or not. Being forced to work and to do your best will breed in you a hundred virtues which the idle never know.

Rev. Charles Kingsley.

BETHINK thee of something thou oughtest to do, and go and do it, if it be but the sweeping of a room, or the preparation of a meal, or a visit to a friend.

George Macdonald.

BE a man's vocation what it may, his rule should be to do his duties perfectly, and thus to make perpetual progress in his art.

Channing.

An "ought" in your life is a "heavenly vision." Can you with Paul say, "I was not disobedient?"

Dr. George B. Spaulding.

## May 5

But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith apart from works is barren?

James 2: 20.

AS body when the soul has fled,
As barren trees, decayed and dead,
Is faith,—a hopeless, lifeless thing,
If not of righteous deeds the spring.

Drummond.

Conviction, were it never so excellent, is worthless till it convert itself into conduct.

Carlyle.

THE test of the correctness of one's faith is the life which such a faith insists upon.

Rev. L. M. Clarke.

THERE is no fit search after truth which does not, first of all, begin to live the truth which it knows.

Horace Bushnell.

Let not your eye spare, neither have ye pity.

Ezekiel 9:5.

TO cut the top of the dock does no good; its root must be eradicated. Sin is a dock root.

UNLESS thou doest violence to thyself, thou shalt never get the victory over sin.

Thomas à Kempis.

Sin worketh,

Let me work too.
Sin undoeth,

Let me do

SIN is never at a stay; if we do not retreat from it, we shall advance in it, and the farther on we go the more we have to come back.

Barrow.

And having gifts differing according to the grace that was given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of our faith; or ministry, let us give ourselves to our ministry.

Rom. 12:6,7.

"A LI, the others can sing," he dolefully said,
"All the others can sing," said he.
So he sat and drooped. But as far and wide
The music was borne on the air's warm tide,
A sudden thought came to the sad little bird,
And he lifted his head as within him it stirred;
"If I cannot sing, I can listen!" he cried,
"Ho, ho! I can listen!" he cried.

Julia C. R. Dorr.

WE need to learn that we cannot do a great deal, but that this fact does not excuse us from doing what we can.

From "The Examiner."

LET us be content, in work, To do the thing we can, and not presume To fret because it's little.

Elizabeth Barrett Browning.

For if the readiness is there, it is acceptable according as a man hath, not according as he hath not.

2 Cor. 8: 12.

GOD measures results very differently from the world. He looks for everybody's best in their circumstances. The world may pronounce the result failure; but so long as the heart and purpose are true to Him, He accepts it "according to that a man hath, and not according to that he hath not."

GoD will not call you to account for the four or five talents you have not received, but he will ask a strict account for that one which he has entrusted to you, and which is your special grace.

Guillore.

Success is doing your best every day. One is not to excuse himself because he has but one talent. To double that is as surely success in God's eye as for another, whose natural abilities and opportunities are five times as good, to carry his talents up to ten.

Crafts.

And he spake kindly to him.
2 Kings 25: 28.

KIND words cost no more than unkind ones.

Speak gently! 't is a little thing
Dropped in the heart's deep well;
The good, the joy that it may bring,
Externity shall tell.

David Bates.

KIND looks, kind words, kind acts, and warm hand-shakes,—these are secondary means of grace when men are in trouble, and are fighting their unseen battles.

Dr. John Hall.

A SINGLE word is a little thing,
But a soul may be dying before your eyes
For the lack of the comfort a word may bring,
With its welcome help and its sweet surprise.

Charles F. Richardson.

Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.

Matt. 28: 20.

OUR failure to realize God's presence is not His absence.

Christopher G. Hazard.

WE can close out the sunshine from our homes by blocking up the windows. The sun shines all the same. So we can also refuse to admit the sweet, life-giving sunshine of Christ's presence and sympathy into our lives, but he shines forth, the light and joy of souls, all the same.

Rev. Henry W. Little.

EARTH 's crowned with heaven,
And every common bush afire with God;
But only he who sees takes off his shoes.

Elizabeth Barrett Browning.

# May 11

And for his allowance, there was a continual allowance given him of the king, every day a portion, all the days of his life.

2 Kings 25: 30.

WE have a right to ask our Heavenly Father for strength equal to the day, but we have no right to ask him for one extra ounce of strength beyond it.

Rev. T. L. Cuyler, D. D.

God broke our years to hours and days, that hour by hour

And day by day,

Just going on a little way,

We might be able all along

To keep quite strong.

God grants no overplus of power; 'tis shed Like morning manna. Yet we dare to bow And ask, "Give us to-day our morrow's bread." But these ye ought to have done and not to have left the other undone,

Matt. 23: 23.

OMISSION, not mission, is written against too many of our names.

Ir is n't the thing you do, dear,
It 's the thing you leave undone,
Which gives you a bit of a heartache
At the setting of the sun.
The tender word forgotten,
The letter you did not write,
The flower you might have sent, dear,
Are your haunting ghosts, to-night.

Margaret E. Sangster.

We are guilty of as grievous a sin in God's eyes when we fail to do those things which we ought to have done as when we do those things which we ought not to have done. Omission is as bad as commission.

### May 13

Stand thou still at this time, that I may cause thee to hear the word of God.

I Sam. 9:17.

In the Mussulman devotions one constant gesture is to put the hands to the ears, as if to listen for the messages from the other world. This is the attitude, the posture which our minds assume, if we have a standing-place above and beyond the stir and confusion and dissipation of this moral world.

Dean Stanley.

HE sometimes wants our ear, our rapt attention, That he some sweetest secret may impart. 'Tis always in the time of deepest silence That heart finds deepest fellowship with heart.

Let thy soul walk softly in thee, as a saint in heaven unshod,

For to be alone with silence is to be alone with God.

S. Miller Hageman.

Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their lubours, for their works follow with them.

Rev. 14: 13.

EVERY noble life leaves the fiber of it interwoven forever in the work of the world; by so much, evermore, the strength of the human race has gained.

Ruskin.

God calls our loved ones, but we lose not wholly What he hath given;

They live on earth, in thought and deed, as truly As in his heaven.

Whittier.

For our dear ones safe on the other side
We give thee praise, O Lord!
Though our hearts are sore for prayers denied,
And our songs have a broken chord.

Never the stain of shame or sin, Never the blight of pain,

Shall come to the blest who have entered in Where only love doth reign.

Margaret E. Sangster.

Delay not.

Acts 9:38.

I F you've any task to do, Let me whisper, friend, to you— Do it.

THERE is nothing like the first glance we get at duty, before there has been any special pleading of our affections or inclinations. Duty is never uncertain at first. It is only after we have got involved in the mazes and sophistries of wishing that things were otherwise than they are, that it seems indistinct. Considering a duty is often explaining it away.

F. W. Robertson.

You can never escape a duty by not acknowledging it.

Dr. Alexander McKenzie.

WE can evade responsibility, but not accountability.

Dr. Charles H. Parkhurst.

And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be delivered.

Joel 2: 32.

And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do.

John. 14: 13.

"WHOSOEVER shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." To call upon God means to be willing to be saved in His way. The elect are whosoever will; the non-elect are whosoever won't.

Henry Ward Beecher.

"WHOSOEVER" is on the outside of the gate, and lets in all who choose. "Whatsoever" is on the inside, and gives to those who enter the free range of all the region and treasures of grace.

From "Presbyterian Observer."

<sup>&</sup>quot;Whosoever" makes salvation free.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Whatsoever" makes it full.

Consider your ways

Haggai I: 7.

EVIL is wrought by want of thought As well as by want of heart.

Hood.

THOUGHTLESSNESS is never an excuse for wrong-doing. Our hasty actions disclose as does nothing else our habitual feelings.

Walter Taylor Field.

If you intend to do a mean thing, wait till to-morrow; if you are to do a noble thing, do it now, now!

Dr. Guthrie.

And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer betweeng, ye shall receive

Matt. 21: 22.

NANSWERED yet? though when you first presented

This one petition at the Father's throne,
It seemed you could not wait the time of asking,
So urgent was your heart to make it known:
Though years have passed since then, do not
despair:

The Lord will answer you sometime, somewhere.

From "The Uplands of God."

WHAT was said of the Israelites, "They could not enter in, because of unbelief,"—the same may be said of many of our prayers, they cannot enter Heaven because they are not put up in faith.

Salter.

EVERY true prayer is a prediction.

Dr. William R. Harper.

#### May 19

And the king's servants said unto the king, Behold, thy servants are ready to do whatsoever my lord the king shall choose.

2. Sam. 15: 15.

I AM willing
To receive what thou givest, To lack what thou withholdest, To relinquish what thou takest, To suffer what thou inflictest, To be what thou requirest, To go where thou sendest, To do what thou biddest.

Pur any burden upon me, only sustain me; Send me anywhere, only go with me. Sever any tie but the one that binds me To Thy service and to Thy heart. From Miss Brigham's Bible. (Preface.)

MAKE thy will ours, and keep us patient still, Be the days few or many, good or ill. Christina G. Rossetti.

Silver and gold have I none; but what I have, that give I thee.

Acts 3 : 6.

THE heart ought to give charity when the hand cannot.

Inesnel.

THERE is a growing need in this world that we must meet, not by a contribution of money, but of self.

Dr. Nehemiah Boynton.

THE world has grown wise enough to see that nothing except a life can really help another life.

Lucy Larcom.

WHEN we give our money, we may make it little or much, according as we follow it with prayer, with desire, with hope, with unutterable longings for souls, or drop it like a dead stone into the contribution box. By all means let us say to the gospel, "Go boldly among the heathen;" but if we wish victory, let us follow it ourselves.

Who went about doing good.

Acts 10:38.

SHE doeth little kindnesses,
Which most leave undone or despise;
For naught which sets one heart at ease,
And giveth happiness and peace,
Is low esteemed in her eyes.

Lowell.

It was only a glad "good-morning," As she passed along the way, But it spread the morning's glory Over the livelong day.

Carlotta Perry

HAVE I come into any company where I have not dropped something for good and left some good savor behind?

Alleine.

What live we for but this?

Into the soul to breathe the soul of sweetness,
The stunted growth to rear to fair completeness,
Drown sneers in smiles, kill hatred with a kiss,
And to the sandy waste bequeath the fame
That the flowers bloomed behind us where we
came.

John Stuart Blackie.

For who hath despised the day of small things?

Zech, 4: 10.

THINK naught a trifle, though it small appear,

Small sands a mountain, moments make a year,

And trifles life.

Young.

THERE is nothing in the earth so small that it may not produce great things,

And no swerving from a right line, that may not lead eternally astray.

Tupper.

HE that avoideth not small faults, by little and little falleth into greater.

Thomas a Kempis.

Trifles are the hinges of destiny.

Yea, all of you gird yourselves with humility.

1 Peter 5:5.

HEAVEN'S gates are not so highly arched as princes' palaces; they that enter there must go upon their knees.

Heber.

HUMBLE we must be, if to heaven we go; High is the roof there, but the gate is low. George Herbert.

HUMILITY consists not so much in the thinking meanly of one's self as in feeling one's dependence on a higher power for success. There is no better time for the exercise of humility than when we succeed.

Mary Lyon.

THERE is no such thing as being proud before man and humble before God.

Whoso keepeth his mouth and his tongue Keepeth his soul from troubles.

Prov. 21: 23.

M Y mind was ruffled with small cares to-day, And I said pettish words and did not keep Long-suffering patience well, and now how deep

My trouble for this sin! In vain I weep, For foolish words I never can unsay.

Henry S. Sutton.

Boys flyin' kites haul in their white-winged birds.

You can't do that when you're a flyin' words,
Will Carleton.

HAD I but known that nothing is undone
From rising until rising of the sun,
That full-fledged words fly off beyond our reach,
That not a deed brought forth to life dies ever,
I would have measured out and weighed my
speech;

To bear good deeds had been my sole endeavor.

MacCulloch.

# May 25

I said in mine heart, Go to now, I will prove thee with mirth; therefore enjoy pleasure: and, behold, this also was vanity.

Eccles, 2: I.

APPINESS pursued is never overtaken because, little as we are, God's image makes us so large that we cannot live within ourselves or even for ourselves and be satisfied.

George W. Cable.

THOSE who would be happy must cease to seek happiness, and ask only the privilege of giving. The song will rise in our hearts when we cease to live for ourselves and begin to live for the good that we can do.

Rev. Amory H. Bradford, D. D.

THE real business of life is to find the truth and to live by it. If in the doing of this, what men call happiness falls to our lot, well and good; but it must be an incident, not as an end.

Hamilton W. Mabie.

And reckonest thou this, O man, who judgest them that practise such things, and doest the same, that thou shalt escape the judgment of God?

Rom. 2:3.

THERE is no man who does not expect his Maker to be more merciful to him than he is to his fellows.

THOSE who are fellow-creatures with men should not be fellow-judges with God.

THEN gently scan your brither man, Still gentler sister woman, Though they may gang a kennin' wrang To step aside is human.

Burns.

THOSE are the best Christians who are more careful to reform themselves than to censure others.

Fuller.

### Mag 27

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honourable, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

Phil. 4:8.

Such as are thy habitual thoughts, such will also be the character of thy mind; for the soul is dyed by the thoughts.

Marcus Aurelius.

WATCH against all fretful and discontented thoughts, which do but chafe and wound the mind to no purpose. To harbor these is to do yourself more injury than it is in the power of your greatest enemy to do you.

Mason.

WE cannot prevent evil thoughts occurring to us, any more than we can prevent unwelcome visitors from ringing the door-bell. It is by entertaining them that we become responsible for them. An empty house is most insecure. Preoccupy the mind with worthy things, and base things will find no lodging there.

From "The Outlook."

I planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.

I Cor. 3:6

FACH hath his mission. If it be My lot to toil but not to see The fruits which to my toil belong, I know One whose all-seeing eve My humblest task shall glorify. And he shall make me strong. Walter Taylor Field.

I know my hand may never reap its sowing, And yet some other may; And I may never even see it growing, So short my little day.

GREAT duties are before me, and great songs; And whether crowned or crownless when I fall, It matters not, so as God's work is done. Alexander Smith

PERHAPS your Master knows what a capital ploughman you are and He never means to let you become a reaper, because you do the ploughing so well.

Sturgeon

For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, And scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. Heb. 12; 6,

THE cross of Christ is the pledge to us that the deepest suffering may be the condition of the highest blessing; the sign, not of God's displeasure, but of his widest and most compassionate love.

Dean Stanley.

As a father in a garden stoops down to kiss a child the shadow of his body falls upon it, so many of the dark misfortunes of our life are not God going away from us, but our heavenly Father stooping down to give us the kiss of his infinite and everlasting love.

T. De Witt Talmage.

The sunlight is upon the grass;
But over all
Shadows that change, but will not pass,
Flicker and fall.
Yet in your heart be there no room
For fear to dwell:
See! from a rosebush full of bloom
The shadow fell.

Alice W. Rollins,

It is holy ground where the shadow falls.

Hawthorne.

But Peter followed him afar off.

Matt, 26:58.

I'T is better to follow Jesus afar off than not to follow him at all. A man has little reason to pride himself on not having denied Jesus, when he was never suspected of being a follower of Jesus.

Henry Clay Trumbull.

WE have chosen to follow the crucified Lord, Though he lead us through dangers of fire and of sword.

We know not what perils await us before, But the tents we have left we will enter no more. Charles F. Richardson.

If we are to follow Christ it must be in our common way of spending every day.

William Law.

To follow Christ is to enter every door that He opens to us.

Dr. Lyman Abbott.

### May 31

I will recompense them according to their deeds, and according to the work of their hands.

Fer. 25: 14.

WE get back our mete as we measure—
We cannot do wrong and feel right,
Nor can we give pain and gain pleasure,
For justice avenges each slight.

Alice Cary.

HE who gives pleasure, meets with it; kindness is the bond of friendship and the hook of love: he who sows not, reaps not.

Sow with a generous hand,
Pause not for toil or pain;
Weary not through the heat of Summer;
Weary not through the cold Spring rain;
But wait till the Autumn comes
For the sheaves of golden grain.

Adelaide A. Procter.

June

So sweet, so sweet the roses in their blowing, So sweet the daffodils, so fair to see; So blithe and gay the humming-bird a-going From flower to flower, a-hunting with the bee. Nora Perry.

> Like the swell of some sweet tune Morning rises into noon, May glides onward into June.

Longfellow.

# June 1

But the path of the righteous is as the shining light, That shineth more and more unto the perfect day, Prov, 4:18.

GOD'S ways seem dark; but, soon or late,
They touch the shining hills of day,
The evil cannot brook delay,
The good can well afford to wait.

Whittier.

NEVERTHELESS I know
Out of the dark must grow,
Sooner or later, whatever is fair,
Since the heavens have willed it so.

Mount, mount above bereavements and pain, There count the loss and the infinite gain, Ne'er a shadow but beyond there 's light, Day sits enthroned 'bove blackest night.

Nina Gray.

And thou shalt have joy and gladness; and many shall rejoice at his birth.

Luke 1: 14.

EACH one has it in his power to make many rejoice in his birth, or to make them rue the day on which he was born.

THERE are souls in the world which have the gift of finding joy everywhere and of leaving it behind them wherever they go. Their influence is an inevitable gladdening of the heart. These bright hearts have a great work to do for God.

F. W. Faber.

THE best use we can make of our life is to live so that we shall be a benediction to every one we meet.

Rev. J. R. Miller, D. D.

OH, how hard it is to die, and not be able to leave the world any better for one's little life in it.

Abraham Lincoln.

# June 3

To him therefore that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

Fas. 4: 17.

HOSE whose hearts God stirs up to act for him make fatal mistake if they fail to act upon the stirring.

God stirs many men's spirits; some listen and act; some listen and turn away to their own selfish dreams. Oh, what a difference! It is the action or the inaction that shows the man.

From "Pilgrim Teacher."

Nor alone to know, but to act according to thy knowledge; for action was existence given thee: thy actions determine thy worth.

Not looking each of you to his own things, but each of you also to the things of others.

Phil. 2:4.

CONCEAL all thou canst of things unsightly; Compare thine own lot with those who have less;

Think of thyself seldom and lightly;
Live that thy life some others may bless.

Margaret May.

For others now we'll smile, and gladly share
Our joys with those who griefs far greater bear.
If dark our lot, we may bring others cheer.

Kesiah Shelton.

WHEN you find yourselves overpowered, as it were, by melancholy, the best way is to go out and do something kind to somebody.

Keble.

If you would help a soul bear its sorrow, introduce it to a greater one.

Jenkin Lloyd Jones.

Thou shalt make thy prayer unto him, and he shall hear thee;

And thou shalt pay thy vows.

Job 22: 27.

REMEMBER that you are bound to do all those duties for the doing of which you have prayed for the Divine assistance.

Jeremy Taylor.

It is a dangerous thing to pray for a blessing unless you want it.

From "The Missionary Review.

If we do not endeavor by our efforts to bring about that for which we pray, we must not blame God. We are the instruments which he uses for the accomplishment of his purposes.

If you do not wish for His kingdom, do not pray for it. But if you do, you must do more than pray: you must work for it.

Ruskin.

What? shall we recive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil?

Job 2: 10.

WE count the things that are denied us here, And not the many things that are bestowed,

Thick-set with blessings is the whole long road, Only at intervals we doubt and fear.

Hattie Tyng Griswold.

THINK not alone of what the Lord hath taken,
Thou whom His love has of some joy bereft,
But in the moments thou art most forsaken,
Think what His love hath left.

Count up thy gains won from affliction's losses,

The riches gathered in no cheaper mart;
The faith and hope, new crowns to costly
crosses.

Wrought out by sorrow's mart.

E. E. Lay.

RATHER than upbraid God for the ills that have befallen thee, thank him for those which have not befallen thee.

Ivan Panin.

### June 7

Not that we are sufficient of ourselves, to account anything as from ourselves; but our sufficiency is from God.

2 Cor. 3: 5.

WHILE you are counting the cost of building a noble and holy life, never lose sight of the fact that Jesus Christ is a partner in your undertaking. The closer you keep that partnership, the stronger you are.

It is a poor mathematician who is always counting up his own resources only and never reckons upon the infinite ability of Christ.

Ir would be a sad thing to think that we shall never be better than we are or can make ourselves.

EFFICIENCY may go a long way, but only sufficiency can go all the way. Many of God's workers are efficient, but between efficiency and sufficiency there is a wide gap.

Marshall.

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

2 Peter 3: 18.

WOULDST thou bring the world to God?
Then live near Him thyself.

Mrs. L. M. Child.

WE cannot lift others to a plane higher than that on which we are living.

Dr. Nehemiah Boynton.

You cannot better serve the world and your age than by growing Christlike.

Dr. W. H. Territt.

THE more you do God's work within yourselves, the more he will give you the opportunity of doing external work for him.

Neale.

#### June 9

One only is the lawgiver and judge, even he who is able to save and to destroy: but who art thou that judgest thy neighbour?

Fas. 4: 12

HOW camest thou on the judgment seat, Sweet heart, who sat thee there? 'T is a lonely and lofty seat for thee, And well might fill thee with care. Ah, the judgment seat is not for thee: The servants are not thine. And the eyes which fix the praise or blame See farther than thine, or mine.

Mrs. Charles.

JUDGE not; the workings of his brain And of his heart thou canst not see; What looks to thy dim eyes a stain, In God's pure light may only be A scar, brought from some well-won field, Where thou wouldst only faint and yield. Adclaide A. Procler.

How shall we judge their present, we who have never seen

That which is past forever, and that which might have been?

Measuring by ourselves, unwise, indeed, are

Measuring what we know by what we can hardly see.

Francis Ridley Havergal.

For I say, through the grace that was given me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but so to think as to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to each man a measure of faith.

Rom. 12:3.

M EN are apt to become so puffed up with one victory that they imagine they cannot be defeated. God intends his children shall not be defeated; but it is through faith, not pride.

PRIDE is the devil's stratagem, who, like an expert wrestler usually gives a man a lift before he gives him a throw.

South.

MEN are always in the most danger, when God has just blessed them.

Dr. Gunsaulus.

#### June 11

He saved others; himself he cannot save.

Matt. 27; 42.

TRUE—He saved others, because he did not save himself.

Rev. L. M. Clarke.

COULD he both keep and give?
Himself for us he gave.
He needs must die for love;
Himself he could not save.

So, who would save must give,
Nor think himself to gain.
Who would make others live
Must spare nor love nor pain.
Emily Tolman.

HE that saves others must always do it at cost to himself.

What wouldest thou?

Matt. 20:21.

TELL me what a soul desires, and I will tell you what it is.

Whate'er thou lovest, man,
That too become thou must;
God, if thou lovest God;
Dust, if thou lovest dust.
From the German.

CHARACTER is the stamp on our souls of the free choice that we have made through life of good and evil.

Geikie.

Fret not thyself, it tendeth only to evil-doing.

Ps. 37:8.

I DARE no more fret than curse and swear.

Sohn Wesley.

THERE's nothing gained by fretting;
Gather your strength anew,
And step by step go onward,
Let the skies be gray or blue.

Margaret E. Sangster.

I would be quiet, Lord, nor tease, nor fret; Not one small need of mine wilt thou forget. Julia C. R. Dorr.

Not a star grows dim,

Nor a floweret fadeth.

Not a cloud o'ershadoweth

But 'tis marked by him.

Dream not that thy gladness

God doth fail to see;

Think not in thy sadness

He forgetteth thee.

A. C. Jennings.

He that covereth his trangressions shall not prosper: But whose confesseth and forsaketh them shall obtain mercy.

Prov. 28 : 13.

BE sure that God has not forgiven that sin of which you have not repented. The gift of repentance is the token of forgiveness.

It is necessary to repent for years in order to efface a fault in the eyes of men; a single tear suffices with God.

Chateaubriand.

Know ye not that God receives Gladly back the soul which grieves? Know ye not that he relents Ere the sinner well repents?

Edwin Arnold.

CHRISTIAN penitence is something more than a thought, or an emotion, or a tear; it is an action.

W. Adams.

And who is my neighbor?

Luke 10: 29.

THE question is not, "Who is my neighbor?" but, "To whom am I neighbor?"

A MAN must not choose his neighbor; he must take his neighbor that God sends him. In him, whoever he be, lies hidden or revealed a beautiful brother. The neighbor is just the man who is next to you at the moment. This love of our neighbor is the only door out of the dungeon of self.

George Macdonald.

Any one in this whole wide universe may become your neighbor. The point is for you to be willing to accept and treat as your neighbor the man God puts in your way.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, And forget not all his benefits.

Ps. 103 : 2.

OUT of our pain and struggle, Up from our grief and dole, We are swift to cry to the Healer. For the touch that makes us whole. Alas! we are not so ready. In the day of our joy and crown, With the palms and the fragrant incense Laid at his altar down: And how it must grieve the Master, That His own are so slow to praise. In the flush of their peace and gladness, The goodness which brims the days! Margaret E. Sangster.

AFFLICTIONS quicken to prayer; but those who remember God in their distresses often forget Him in their deliverances.

B. Beddome.

WHEN thy life is bright With joyous sweet light That shines like the glorious sun, And the path you tread With pleasure is spread, Remember the All-giving One. G. H. Gorman.

## June 17

So shall thy judgment be; thyself hast decided it.

1 Kings 20: 40.

M EN weave in their own lives the garments which they must wear in the world to come.

THE heaven of the future, and the hell also, are in the germ in every human soul; and no man is appointed to one or the other, for each appoints himself.

From "The Outlook."

THE value of the future depends entirely upon the value attached to to-day; there is no magic in the years to come; nothing can bloom in those fairer fields save that which is sown to-day.

THE future does not come from before to meet us, but comes streaming up from behind over our heads. Jehovah hath forsaken me, and the Lord hath forgotten me. Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, these may forget, yet will not I forget thee. Isa. 49: 14,15.

FEAREST sometimes that thy Father
Hath forgot?
When the clouds around thee gather

Doubt Him not!

Always hath the daylight broken—
Always hath He comfort spoken—
Better hath He been for years,

Than thy fears.

Karl Rudolph Hagenbach.

God's care no failure knows;
'T is only sins constrain
His hand—with pain—
To close.

Rev. W. R. Cochrane.

BE still, O heart! cease fearing, fretting
About the future, all unknown.

Ne'er think the Master is forgetting
About his own—his purchased one.

Jean H. Watson.

#### June 19

But let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath.

Jas. 1: 19.

THINK twice before you speak, my son; and it will do no harm if you keep on thinking while you speak.

You will not be sorry for hearing before judging, for thinking before speaking, for holding an angry tongue, for stopping the ear to a tale-bearer, for disbelieving most of the ill reports, for being kind to the distressed, for being kind toward everybody, for doing good to all men, for asking pardon for all wrongs, for speaking evil of no one, for being courteous to all.

From " The Outlook."

GOVERN the lips

As they were palace doors, the king within; Tranquil and fair and courteous be all words Which from that presence win.

Edwin Arnold.

Did ye suffer so many things in vain? if it be indeed in vain.

Gal. 3: 4.

A MAN who does not know how to learn from his mistakes turns the best schoolmaster out of his life.

Henry Ward Beecher.

PERHAPS the greatest hero is the man who does his best and signally fails, yet is not embittered by his failure. A life here in which you fail of every end you seek, yet which disciplines you for a better life, is assuredly not a failure.

Wounds of the soul, though healed, will ache; The reddening scars remain and make

Confession;

Lost innocence returns no more;

We are not what we were before

Transgression.

But noble souls, through dust and heat,

Rise from disaster and defeat

The stronger;

And, conscious still of the divine

Within them, lie on earth supine

No longer.

Longfellow.

And we exhort you, brethren, admonish the disorderly, encourage the fainthearted, support the weak, be longsuffering toward all.

I. Thess. 5: 14.

WHEN all our hopes are gone,
'T is well our hands must still keep toiling on

For others' sake;

For strength to bear is found in duty done, And he is blest indeed who learns to make The joy of others cure his own heartache.

WHEN your burden is heaviest, you can always lighten a little some other burden. At the times when you cannot see God, there is still open to you this sacred possibility, to show God. Let this thought, then, stay with you: there may be times when you cannot find help, but there is no time when you cannot give help.

George S. Merriam.

None is without his failings,
None without his burden,
None strong enough for his own needs,
None wise enough.

We take our turns to lift the burden from each other,

We take our turns to comfort and console, To help, to counsel and to teach.

Thomas à Kempis.

Thou hast beset me behind and before, And laid thine hand upon me.

Ps. 139: 5.

"I HAD much seed to sow," said one; "I planned

To fill broad furrows, and to watch it spring, And water it with care. But now the hand Of him to whom I sought great sheaves to bring Is laid upon his laborer, and I wait, Weak, helpless, at his palace gate."

Frances Ridley Havergal.

THE more God empties your hands from other work, the more you may know that he has special work to give them.

Garrett.

I would have gone; God bade me stay: I would have worked; God bade me rest. Christina G. Rossetti.

#### June 23

Brethren, even if a man be overtaken in any trespass, ye which are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of meekness; looking to thyself, lest thou also be tempted.

Gal. 6: 1.

N OTHING but the consciousness of your own weakness can make you indulgent and pitiful to that of others.

IF you are tempted to criticise others and notice their shortcomings, turn your attention upon your own faults and failings, and you will find that there is no time left for you to bestow thought upon your neighbors.

Make sure that, however good you may be, you have faults; that however dull you may be, you can find out what they are; and that, however slight they may be, you would better make some patient effort to get quit of them.

Ruskin.

SEARCH others for their virtues, and thyself for thy vices.

Fuller.

Yea, ! have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with loving kindness have I drawn thee,

For. 31:3.

GOD, thou art love. I build my faith on that.

Robert Browning.

Who rests on God's unchanging love, Builds on the rock that naught can move. George Newmark.

ART tired?

There is a rest remaining. Hast thou sinned? There is a sacrifice. Lift up thy head. The lovely world, and the over world alike, Ring with a song eterne, a happy rede: Thy Father loves thee.

Jean Ingelow.

O soul rejoice!
Thou art God's child indeed, for all thy sinning;
A poor, weak child, yet his, and worth the winning.

George Macdonald.

And he that doth not take his cross and follow after me, is not worthy of me.

Matt. 10: 38.

YOU cannot behold the Christ and pass by his cross. There is no way around the cross; you must face him there first.

Rev. J. S. Dodd.

You like to behold and even to touch the Cross, but alas! when the command comes to you to bear it!

Fénelon.

THE cross on Golgotha will never save thy soul; The cross in thine own heart alone can make thee whole.

Silesius.

If you think you can trust in Christ's sacrifice for salvation, without obeying his precepts as a rule of sanctification, you are greatly mistaken. Trust in Christ will lead you to take the yoke of Christ. Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body.

Rom. 6: 12,

DO not keep company with any sin. It may surprise thee as an enemy sometimes, but let it not lodge with thee as a friend.

Archbishop Leighton.

To rise in strength and cast the evil out, That slays the Christ-like in the human soul; This is thy work.

This, this should be our ceaseless work,
To crush the enemy within ourselves,
Daily to get a braver hold on him
And win some ground upon the better path.

Thomas à Kempis,

Man-like is it to fall into sin; Fiend-like is it to dwell therein; Christ-like is it for sin to grieve; God-like is it, all sin to leave.

Longfellow.

We know not how to pray as we ought.

Rom. 8: 26.

WHAT are our prayers—the language of a full heart or of a full lip?

F. W. Robertson.

If you strike all that is conventional, all that is formal, all that you do not care whether you ever get or not, and all that you would not know what to do with if you got it, out of your prayers, how much would there be left?

Rev. Alexander McLaren, D. D.

WE quite as often pray for things that we have as for things that we have not. We might better look and see the pearls lying at our feet than to ask for more pearls.

Dr. Alexander McKenzie.

## In nothing be anxious.

Phil. 4:6.

HOW much time is wasted in what is called thought, but is merely care—an anxious idling over fancied probabilities of a result.

You needn't pack up any worries. You can get them anywhere as you go along.

Mrs. A. D. T. Whitney.

THERE is a wide difference between worrying about a possible future of trial and being ready for it, if it should come. The former we should never do; the latter we should always seek to be.

Rev. J. R. Miller, D. D.

EVERY moment of worry weakens the soul for its daily combat.

Anna Robertson Brown.

#### June 29

Praise ye the Lord;
For it is good to sing praises unto our God;
For it is pleasant, and praise is comely.
Ps. 147:1.

GOD'S goodness hath been great to thee;
Let never day, nor night unhallowed pass,
But still remember what the Lord hath done.

Shakespeare.

It is a pleasant sight to see anybody thanking God, for the air is heavy with the hum of murmuring and the roads are dusty with complaints and lamentations.

Spurgeon.

HE thanked God and sighed. Some people always sigh in thanking God.

Elizabeth Barrett Browning.

And he died for all, that they which live should no longer live unto themselves, but unto him who for their sakes died and rose again.

2 Cor. 5 : 15.

TEACH me to live for self and sin no more,
But use the time remaining to me yet;
Not mine own pleasure seeking, as before,
Wasting no precious hours in vain regret.

Dublin Tract Repository.

THAT is a defective and worthless life plan which has in it no provision for ministering to others. To live to oneself is to live a narrow, cheap and worthless life.

Rev. David Sherman, D. D.

HE who lives but for himself, lives but for a little thing.

Barjand.

The blessed are they who live but to bless.

Lucy Larcon.



When the lilies tall lean over the wall To bow to the butterfly, It is July.

Susan Hartley Swett.

After the Maytime and after the Junetime, Rare with blossoms and perfume sweet, Cometh the round world's royal noontime, The red midsummer of blazing heat. Ella Wheeler Wilcox, Let not thine hands be slack.
Zeph. 3: 16.

MY work is mine,
And, heresy or not, if my hand slacked,
I should rob God \* \* \*
I say, not God, himself, can make man's best
Without best men to help him.

George Eliot.

IT must be done by both; God never without me, I never without God.

Johannes Scheffler.

EACH of you possesses a special fitness for your own special work, and no one in the universe can take your place, or do the work allotted to you.

Dr. Hugh Macmillan.

THE universe is not quite perfect without my work well done.

There is that scattereth, and increaseth yet more; And there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth only to want,

Prov. I: 24.

THE seed that is hoarded is wasted. If there were more sowings, there would be more harvests.

SHUT up your bread corn in a granary, and though it may not rot, it cannot grow. But strew it abroad over the furrows of the ground, and it will swell into a harvest.

Nathaniel L. Frothingham.

Who shuts his hand, hath lost his gold, Who opens it, hath it twice told.

George Herbert.

Give, as the morning that flows out of heaven; Give, as the waves when their channel is riven; Give, as the free air and sunshine are given— Lavishly, utterly, carelessly give.

Rose Terry Cooke.

## July 3

And bring us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

Matt. 6:13.

NO one can ask honestly or hopefully to be delivered from temptation unless he has himself honestly and firmly determined to do the best he can to keep out of it.

Ruskin.

MEN often go up to a temptation from which they should fly; and then they often fly when they should stand and fight.

A MAN can no more be a Christian without facing evil and conquering it, than he can be a soldier without going to battle and encountering the enemy in the field.

E. H. Chapin.

EVERY evil to which we do not succumb is a benefactor; we gain strength of the temptation we resist.

Emerson.

Even as the duty of every day required.

2 Chron. 8:13.

IF duty be discharged diurnally, then it will be impossible for us to fall into arrears. Ay, there's the rub! Our religion is in arrears; we have not balanced the accounts.

Dr. Joseph Parker.

A DUTY well done and systematically carried out becomes easy, while only occasional response is a struggle every time.

Rev. F. R. Knodell.

WHEN the service of the Lord seems hard, it is because we are but imperfectly performing it.

L. P. Mercer.

Wait on the Lord: Be strong, and let thine heart take courage; Yea, wait thou on the Lord.

Ps. 27: 14.

WAITING on God! It is sitting down
By the way to rest awhile,
And learning the secret of perfect peace
In the light of a Father's smile.
From Christian Endeavor Calendar.

To wait; it is not wearisome. Each day Brings something; newer needs or lessons caught From yesterday, . . . to wait is naught, When waiting means to serve.

James Berry Bensel.

WAITING, his love I fully trust,
I must!
I know his hand will set me free,
And though the way I cannot see,
I know his love is guiding me.
Eliza Lamb Martyn.

According as each hath received a gift, ministering it among yourselves, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

I Peter 4: 10.

WE need, each and all, to be needed,
To feel we have something to give
Towards soothing the moan of earth's hunger;
And we know that then only we live
When we feed one another, as we have been fed
From the hand that gives body and spirit their
bread.

Lucy Larcom.

How much we take, how little give, Yet every life is meant To help all lives; each man should live For all men's betterment.

Alice Cary.

THE least flower with a brimming cup may stand

And share its dew-drop with another near.

Elizabeth Barrett Browning.

# July 7

And they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.

Acts. 4: 13.

RELIGION is a matter in the first place between God and the heart; but it does not remain an inward feeling. The secret relation between God and His people issues into substantial fact, visible to all men.

W. G. Sperry.

IF you have really given up your heart to God in private, your life will show forth the praise of God in public; if God has the heart he is sure of the life.

WHEN you cannot find God in your hearts, then turn and look for him in your lives.

\*\*Cornelia A. Pratt.\*\*

For whosocver shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is become guilty of all.

Fames 2: 10.

I'T little matters how carefully the rest of the lantern is protected, the one point which is damaged is quite sufficient to admit the wind; and so it little matters how zealous a man may be in a thousand things, if he tolerates one darling sin; Satan will find out the flaw and destroy all his hopes.

Spurgeon.

ONE sin cherished dearly will cost a man his character.

Rev. L. M. Clarke.

"THE best of the flock"—our darling, our profitable sins—we spare and then cry, "Lo, I have done that the Lord commanded."

This is the day which the Lord hath made; We will rejoice and be glad in it.

Ps. 118: 24.

LET us lay hold of the happiness of to-day. Do we not go through life blindly, thinking that some fair to-morrow will bring us the gift we miss to-day? . . . Know thou, my heart, if thou art not happy to-day, thou shalt never be happy.

Anna Robertson Brown.

You shall be none the worse to-morrow for having been happy to-day.

Thackeray.

But along all the after years To-day will be a song of smiles, or tears.

MEN are always happier for having been happy; so that if you make them happy now, you make them happy twenty years hence by the memory of it.

Sidney Smith.

In all labour there is profit.

Prov. 14:23.

TO fill the hour and leave no crevice for repentance or approval—that is happiness.

\*\*Emerson.\*\*

Along the path of a useful life
Will heartsease ever bloom;
The busy mind has no time to think
Of sorrow, or care, or gloom.

Louisa M. Alcott.

None so little enjoy life as those who have nothing to do.

Nor to enjoy life, but to employ life ought to be our aim and aspiration.

Macduff.

Let not your heart be troubled.

John 14: 1.

WHEN a believer really trusts anything, he ceases to worry about the thing he has trusted. And when he worries, it is a plain proof that he does not trust. Tested by this rule, how little real trust there is in the church of Christ!

Hannah W. Smith.

SOME people seem to rake up all the sorrows of the past; to them they add the burdens of the present; then they look ahead, and anticipate a great many more trials than they will ever experience in the future.

Dwight L. Moody.

IT is distrust of God to be troubled about what is to come, impatience against God to be troubled with what is present, and anger at God to be troubled for what is past.

CHRIST'S protest is not against work, but against anxious thought.

Drummond.

This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth, but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein.

Joshua I: 8.

GOD cannot open the windows of heaven very wide to the man with a shut-up Bible. An open Bible means an open heaven.

THERE is but one chart or compass that can guide you to heaven—the Bible.

THE Bible is to us the storehouse in which the Lord has laid up the treasures of seed.

Calderwood.

Growing Christians must feed daily on spiritual food.

### July 13

Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old.

Isa. 43: 18.

YET, my soul, look not behind thee;
Thou hast work to do at last:
Let the brave toil of the present
Overarch the crumbling past.
From "Golden Rule."

THE best of life ought to be before and not behind us; greater attainments, greater strength, greater blessedness. Waste not the days in idle regrets, in vain lamentations of the past, but forgetting the things that are behind, our follies and failures, press onward and upward.

To stand with defeat behind us, and to face Godward, knowing that every sin has left an impress on character that will need the vigilance of the awakened manhood to overcome, and yet to know that the soul never stands alone, that the power to overcome is always within the grasp of the man who fights to win, gives victory.

If we endure, we shall also reign with him.
2. Timothy 2: 12.

FROM heaven shall gently come this message down,

"They that have borne the cross shall win a crown

Never to fade."

THOSE whom God calls to a kingdom, He calls to sufferings on the way to it.

Archbishop Leighton.

THERE are no crown-bearers in heaven, who were not cross-bearers below.

Spurgeon.

IF you ask the way to the crown—'t is by the cross! To the mountain—'t is by the valley! To exaltation—'t is he that humbleth himself.

J. H. Evans.

#### July 15

In overflowing wrath I hid my face from thee for a moment; but with everlasting kindness will I have mercy on thee, saith the Lord.

Isa. 54:8.

A JEWISH proverb says, Michael flies with but one wing, Gabriel with two. God is quick in sending angels of peace and they fly apace; but the messengers of wrath come slowly.

\*\*Jeremy Taylor.\*\*

THE vial of God's wrath drops, but the fountain of his mercy runs.

THERE is no exhausting God's mercy, for, like His love, it is infinite. Given a channel and it will run through thousands of generations.

In everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

Phil. 4:6.

No time to pray!

Must care or business' urgent call

So press us as to take it all,

Each passing day?

HAVE you a want? keep it not; carry it to Him. It shall lie on the mercy-seat to be considered. In due time shall be written on it, "To be provided for."

Lady Powerscourt.

HAST thou no pining want, or wish, or care, That calls for holy prayer?

Margaret Mercer.

But if for any wish thou darest not pray, Then pray to God to cast that wish away. \*\*Coleridge\*\*.

# July 17

Look therefore carefully how ye walk, not as unwise, but as wise; redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

Eph. 5: 15, 16.

COME, gone—gone forever,
Gone as an unreturning river,—
To-morrow, to-day, yesterday, never,
Gone once for all.

Christina G. Rossetti.

NOTHING is so utterly, hopelessly lost as "lost time." It makes me unhappy when I look back and see how much time I have wasted, how much I might have learned and done if I had but understood how short is the longest hour.

Helen Hunt Jackson.

In all our lives, though time is given us to eat, drink, sleep, work and play, there is no moment given us to throw away.

Anna Robertson Brown.

Then said I, Ah, Lord God! behold, I cannot speak: for I am a child. But the Lord said unto me, Say not, I am a child: for to whomsoever I shall send thee thou shalt go, and whatsoever I shall command thee thou shalt speak.

Jer. 1:6, 7.

A CHILD art thou? Then leave thy Father to decide

What shall thy service be;

Sure that His loving kindness will provide

Whate'er is best for thee.

f AM glad to think
I am not bound to make the world go right,
But only to discover and to do,
With cheerful heart, the work that God appoints,

HE chose this path for thee:
No feeble chance, or hard, relentless fate,
But love, his love, hath placed thy footsteps
here.

#### July 19

The discretion of a man maketh him slow to anger; And it is his glory to pass over a transgression.

Prov. 19 : 11.

HE who indulges in enmity is like one who throws ashes to windward, which come back to the same place and cover him all over.

FORGET the past and begin anew; not the kindness and friendship and joy of the past, but its bitterness, its vexations, its mistakes.

Emily Tolman.

WRITE benefits on marble-injuries on sand.

HATH any wounded thee? Soft language dresses it; forgiveness cures it; and oblivion takes away the scar.

Francis Quarles,

Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might.

Eccles. 9: 10.

THIS I resolved on, to wit:—to run, when I can; to go, when I cannot run; and to creep, when I cannot go.

Bunyan.

"I AM only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. What I can do I ought to do; and what I ought to do, by the grace of God I will do."

WE must not, under pretense of humility and self-denial, be slothful in laying out ourselves for the good of others. We must not say, "I am nothing, therefore I will sit still and do nothing," but "I am nothing in myself, and therefore I will do my best in the strength of Christ." Having these gifts let us use them.

HE who waits to do a great deal of good at once, will never do any.

Fohnson

# July 21

For thus said the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel, In returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength: and ye would not.

Isa. 30 : 15.

WHAT secret trouble stirs thy breast?
Why all this fret and flurry?
Dost thou not know that what is best
In this too restless world is rest
From overwork and worry?

THERE is no music in a "rest" that I know of, but there's the making of music in it. And people are always missing that part of the life melody, always talking of perseverance and courage and fortitude; but patience is the finest and worthiest part of fortitude, and the rarest too.

Ruskin.

THE measure of a man is his willingness to wait. It is an essential element of power; a decisive test of character.

Dr. J. M. Hark.

The Lord will give strength unto his people.

Ps. 29: 11.

HE will help thee and provide thee With a courage not thine own,
Bear thee in his arms and guide thee,
Till thou learn'st to walk alone.

Shitta.

Thou shalt need all the strength that God can give
Simply to live, my friend, simply to live.

Simply to live, my friend, simply to live. F. W. H. Myers,

GOD never has built a Christian strong enough to stand the strain of present duties and all the tons of to-morrow's duties and sufferings piled up on the top of them.

Rev. T. L. Cuyler, D. D.

No man ever sank under the burden of today. It is when to-morrow's burden is added to to-day's that the weight is more than a man can bear.

, George Macdonald.

She hath done what she could.

Mark 14: 8.

I'T may be little we can do
To help another, it is true;
But better is a little spark
Of kindness when the way is dark,
Than one should miss the road to heaven
For lack of light we might have given.

If I can only place one little brick in the pavement of the Lord's pathway, I will place it there, that coming generations may walk thereon to the heavenly city.

Phillips Brooks.

No simplest duty is forgot, Life has no dim and lonely spot That doth not in her sunshine share.

Lowell.

THE Lord puts chance upon chance of small ministering in our way every day.

Then the lust, when it hath conceived, beareth sin: and the sin, when it is full grown, bringeth forth death.

Jas. 1:15.

SIN is like a mushroom. It springeth up in the night wherever the soil permits. One day we see no sign to warn us, but lo! in the morning there it is full-grown.

> In the rising stifle ill, Lest it grow against thy will.

> > R. Southwell.

It is astonishing how soon the whole conscience begins to unravel if a single stitch is dropped. One little sin indulged makes a hole you could put your head through.

Charles Buxton.

WHEN a man begins to do wrong, he cannot answer for himself how far he may be carried on. He does not see beforehand, he cannot know where he will find himself after the sin is committed. One false step forces him to another, one evil concession requires another.

Cardinal Newman.

Behold, here am I, let him do to me as seemeth good unto him.

2, Sam. 15; 26.

SHALL we say "Thy will be done!"

And on our own errands run?

Lucy Larcom.

THE one generic temptation of our natures is not to permit God to have his way with us, to do with us what He wills to do, to make us what He wills to make us.

As the potter, however skillful, cannot make a beautiful vessel out of a lump of clay, until it is put into his hands, so neither can God make out of me, a vessel, unless I put myself in His hands.

Hannah W. Smith.

UNTIL our selfish will is destroyed, we cannot live in God. We can only stand in the vestibule.

Dr. Joseph Parker.

Giving thanks always for all things in the name of our Lord Fesus Christ to God, even the Father, Eph. 5: 20.

ORD, that lends me life, lend me a heart replete with thankfulness.

Shakesbeare.

Thou who hast given so much to me Give one thing more, a grateful heart: Not thankful when it pleaseth me. As if thy blessings had spare days; But such a heart whose pulse may be Thy praise George Herbert.

DEAR Jesus, now on bended knee, I bring my heart in thanks to thee, For care and keeping through the night, And for the morning's pleasant light, For health and home and loving friends, And for thy love that never ends.

For lo, the kingdom of God is within you.

Luke 17: 21.

H OW far from here to heaven?
Not very far, my friend!
A single hearty step
Will all thy journey end.

If heaven does n't begin in this world, we have no guarantee that it ever will begin.

Many indeed think of being happy with God in heaven; but the being happy in God on earth never enters into their thought.

John Wesley.

Too long have we been willing to put that kingdom which he came to found away beyond the stars; to interpret all his glowing words about it as the description of some visionary state which has no relation to this world. That was not the purpose of his mission; that is not the meaning of his gospel. In his prayer there is no intimation of a wish that we may go to heaven; it is a prayer whose sole burden is that heaven may be brought to earth.

Washington Gladden.

A merry heart is a good medicine.

Prov. 17; 22,

GOOD temper, like a sunny day, sheds a brightness over everything. It is the sweetener of toil and the soother of disquietude.

A SUNNY temper gilds the edges of life's blackest cloud.

Guthrie.

A PROPENSITY to hope and joy is real riches; one to fear and sorrow, real poverty.

Hume.

THE world has nothing to learn from pessimism: they only truly live who live joyfully.

Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee.

Ps. 55: 22.

UNLOADING one's cares to the extent of becoming careless oneself is n't casting one's burden on the Lord. Going on in the strength of the Lord, that and that only is casting one's burden on the Lord.

Rev. L. M. Clarke.

THY burden is God's gift,
And it will make the bearer calm and strong,
Yet, lest it press too heavily and long,

He says, 'Cast it on me
And it shall easy be.'
And those who heed his voice

And those who heed his voice

And seek to give it back in trustful prayer,

Have quiet hearts that never can despair,

And hope lights up the way Upon the darkest day.

Marianne Farningham.

CHILD of my love, lean hard
And let me feel the pressure of thy care;
I know thy burden, child; I shaped it,
And ever as I laid it on, I said,
"I shall be near and when she leans on me
This burden shall be mine, not hers."

If ye know these things, blessed are ye if ye do them. Fohn 13: 17.

PEOPLE do not need to know more about virtue, but rather to practice what they already know.

'T is one thing to know, and another to practise.

Robert Browning.

No longer talk about the kind of man a good man ought to be, but be such.

Marcus Antoninus.

Not those who say what they can do, but those who go to work and do it, show their ability. A word in due season, how good is it!

Prov. 15: 23.

HAVE you not a word for Jesus?

Some, perchance, while ye are dumb,

Wait and weary for your message, hoping you will bid them "come;"

Never telling hidden sorrows, lingering just outside the door,

Longing for your hand to lead them into rest for evermore.

Yours may be the joy and honor His redeeméd ones to bring,—

Jewels for the coronation of our coming Lord and King.

Will you cast away the gladness thus your Master's joy to share,

All because a word for Jesus seems too much for you to dare?

Frances Ridley Havergal.

ONLY a word for the Master, Lovingly, quietly said; Only a word!

Charlotte Murray.

YEA, find thou always time to say some earnest word

Between the idle talk, lest with thee henceforth,

Night and day, regret should walk.

Coventry Patmore.

There is sultry gloom on the mountain brow, And a sultry glow beneath, O, for a breeze from the western sea, Soft and reviving, sweet and free, Over the shadowless hill and lea, Over the barren heath.

Frances Ridley Havergal.

The sunshine showers a cross the grain,
And the bluebird trills in the orchard tree,
And in and out when the eaves drip rain
The swallows are twittering ceaselessly.
James Whitcomb Riley.

The Master is here and calleth thee.

John 11: 28.

GOD calling yet! And shall he knock And I my heart the closer lock? He still is waiting to receive, And shall I dare his spirit grieve? Gerhard Tersteegen.

Thou delightest
To win with love the wandering:
Thou invitest
By smiles of mercy, not by frowns or terrors
Man from his errors.

Sir John Bowring.

O WANDERING one, canst thou reject such love? Will not the thought suffice thy heart to move? The Father longs to have you near his side; Will you not come and in his love abide?

William Norris Burr.

WHEN the Father opens His door and invites me in, shall His child not be waiting on the step?

Cardinal Manning.

Lord, teach us to brav.

Luke TT . T

IT is not prayer,
This clamor of our eager wants, That fills the air With wearying, selfish plaints.

It is true prayer, To seek the giver more than gift: God's life to share And love-for this our cry to lift. White

PRAYER for specific blessings is a very different thing from communion with God. Prayer is one thing, petition is quite another.

F. W. Robertson.

WE ordinarily first bring our own needs to God in prayer. The Master reverses the order. First Thy name, Thy kingdom, Thy will; then give us, forgive us, lead us, deliver us.

Andrew Murray.

Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him, and he shall bring it to pass.

Ps. 37: 5.

FAITH carries present loads, meets present assaults, feeds on present promises, and commits the future to a faithful God.

Rev. Theodore L. Cuyler, D.D.

It takes really a higher faith to trust God for this world than for the next.

Garrett.

It is generally much less difficult to commit the keeping of our future to the Lord than it is to commit our present. We know we are helpless as regards the future, but we feel as if the present was in our own hands, and must be carried on our own shoulders; and most of us have an unconfessed idea that it is a great deal to ask the Lord to carry ourselves, and that we cannot think of asking him to carry our burdens too.

Hannah W. Smith.

But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged of you, or of man's judgment.

1 CM. 4: 3

MOST people dread far more the social frown which follows the doing of something conventionally wrong, than they do the qualities of conscience which follow the doing of something intrinsically wrong.

Herbert Stencer.

IF no withheld approval damps thy zeal, When God's pure eve thy hidden motive scans, As with bared soul thou dost to him appear, What need'st thou care for man's? Margaret J. Preston.

ACCOUNTABLE to none But to my conscience and my God alone. Oldham.

Through love be servants one to another. For the whole law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.

Gal. 5: 13, 14.

THERE are only a few years left to love,
Shall we waste them in idle strife?
Shall we trample them under our ruthless feet,
Those beautiful blossoms rare and sweet,
By the dusty way of life?

LIFE is short, and we have never too much time for gladdening the hearts of those who are travelling the same dark journey with us. Oh, be swift to love, make haste to be kind!

Auriel.

It is well to organize charity to relieve destitution, but it is a thousand times better to practise charity—kindliness is the true rendering. Love thy neighbor as thyself.

A. W. Tourgee.

EVERY day should be distinguished by at least one particular act of love.

Lavater.

Thy God helpeth thee.

I Chron. 12:18.

I T is vain to ask God to make us good; he never makes any one good. We may ask him to help us to become good; that he always does.

Washington Gladden.

EVEN God does not confer salvation from without. It comes or is refused as a matter of deliberate, personal choice. Man becomes the arbiter of his own destiny. Heaven and hell are within. There can be no salvation except in character.

Rev. E. G. Updike.

TIME the shuttle drives, but you Give to every thread its hue;
And elect your destiny.

For if because of meat thy brother is grieved, thou walkest no longer in love. Destroy not with thy meat him for whom Christ died.

Rom. 14: 15.

EVERY time a Christian goes wrong, he makes it harder for some sinner to go right.

HAD I some of that blood poured forth on the cross, how carefully should I carry it! And ought I not to be as careful of the souls it was shed for?

St. Bernard.

WE are either the sower that sows and corrupts, or the light that splendidly illuminates and the salt that silently operates.

Chalmers.

It needs, therefore, in us, infinite carefulness and watchfulness as we walk ever amid other lives, lest by some word, or look, or act, or disposition, or influence of ours, we hurt them irreparably.

Rev. J. R. Miller, D.D.

Thou shalt surely open thine hand unto thy brother, to thy needy, and to thy poor, in thy land.

Deut. 15: 11.

HOLD fast upon God with one hand, and open wide the other to your neighbor. That is religion; that is the law and the prophets, and the true way to all better things that are yet to come.

George MacDonald.

THERE doth not live

Any so poor but they may give,

Any so rich but may receive.

Withhold the very meagrest dole

Hands can bestow, in part or whole,

And we may stint a starving soul.

Margaret F. Preston.

NOTHING is more pleasing to God than an open hand and a close mouth.

Francis Quarles.

And whatsoever ye do, in word or in deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus.

Col. 3: 17.

A N arm of aid to the weak, A friendly hand to the friendless, Kind words so short to speak But whose echo may be endless, The world is wide, these things are small, They may be nothing, but they are all.

THE sunshine of life is made up of very little beams that are bright all the time.

Arkin.

THAT best portion of a good man's life— His little nameless unremembered acts Of kindness and of love.

Wordsworth.

Thou therefore that teachest another, teachest thou not thyself? thou that preachest a man should not steal, dost thou steal?

Rom. 2 ; 21.

PEOPLE can easily take the sacred name "duty" as a name for what they desire any one else to do.

George Eliot.

For each one thinks he knows the way
To give to others rules for living,
Though no one thinks he must obey
The rules which he himself is giving.

E. G. Benedict

Our standard of right and wrong is usually very lenient to ourselves, but very strict with reference to others. We shall be judged hereafter in some degree by that standard according to which we judge others here.

Rev. R. Gridlestone.

But thou hast in love to my soul delivered it from the pit of corruption; for thou hast cast all my sins behind thy back.

Isa. 38: 17.

GOD loveth thee, but not thy sin;
He would thou shouldst be pure and clean;

That which defileth, cast away; Thy steps direct in wisdom's way. Give Him thy heart and soul and be His own, because God loveth thee.

I. E. Diekenga.

IF you would imitate Christ, take sin by the throat and the sinner by the hand.

W. H. H. Murray.

Thus God by His grace does with those whom he chooses to be priests to himself; he parts between them and their sins, and so prevents their sins parting between them and their God; He reconciles himself to the sinner, but not to the sin.

Matthew Henry.

Are there not twelve hours in the day?

John II: 9.

BE more cheerful; do not worry:
There is time enough to do
Every day the daily duties
That your Father sendeth you,
And to find some little moments
For heart music fresh and new.

THE world is wide
In time and tide
And God is guide;
Then do not hurry.
That man is blest
Who does his best
And leaves the rest;
Then do not worry.

Rev. Charles F. Deems.

A LIFE of worry, want and wear,
A life of discord, doubt and care,
I may not, will not, live on earth—
It ill becomes the second birth
Of God's own child.

Rev. John Parker.

The supplication of a righteous man availeth much in its working.

James 5: 16.

ONE thought has assumed a new reality in my mind of late as an offshoot of my useless life. When a man can do nothing else, he can add his little rill to the great river of intercessory prayer which is always rolling up to the throne of God. The river is made up of such rills as the ocean is of drops. A praying man can never be a useless man.

Austin Phelps.

Ir is pleasant to think that this best of all service for others we can render even when unable to do any active work on their behalf. A "shut in" who can run no errands and lift away no burdens and speak no words of cheer to busy toilers and sore strugglers in the great world can yet pray for them, and God will send truest help.

Rev. F. R. Miller, D. D.

It is not so much the prayer as the prayer which moves the heart of God.

Dr. W. H. Territt.

Let no man seek his own, but each his neighbor's good.

I Cor. 10: 24.

THE richest experiences of life never come to those who try to win them selfishly. If they do gain their desires, they find them as ashes to the taste.

Anna Robertson Brown.

How may my soul on earth find rest and peace? Nav cease Such questioning, And say, How may I bring Unto some other soul a glad release? Rev. J. A. Torrev.

Who blesses others in his daily deeds Will find the healing that his spirit needs, For every flower in others' pathway thrown Confers its fragrant beauty on our own.

Be patient therefore, brethren.

James 5:7.

MAY God make us patient to live; not that we should not have aspirations; but till the flying comes, let us brood contentedly upon our nests.

ALL that you cannot better in yourself or in the lives of others,
You must patiently endure
Till God ordains a change.

Thomas a Kembis.

No felt evil or defect becomes divine until it is inevitable, and only when resistance to it is exhausted and hope has fled does surrender cease to be premature. The hardness of our task lies here, that we have to strive against the grievous things of life, while hope remains, as if they were evil; and then, when the stroke has fallen, to accept them from the hand of God and doubt not they are good.

James Martineau.

So then let us not sleep, as do the rest, but let us watch and be sober.

I Thess. 5: 6.

TO-DAY slips quickly by-to-morrow's but a passing link,

And, while we idly dally, dream or think, Our golden opportunity goes by.

E. V. Hill.

THE great secret of success in life is to be ready when your opportunity comes.

Lord Beaconsfield.

THERE are more men who have missed opportunities than there are who have lacked opportunities.

La Beaumelle.

"OPPORTUNITY for a Christian means responsibility." There are abundant opportunities for usefulness, but alas! few Christians realize or accept their responsibilities.

Therefore seeing we have this ministry, even as we obtained mercy, we faint not: but we have renounced the hidden things of shame, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by the manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

2 Cor. 4: 1, 2,

WHAT do we live for if it is not to make life less difficult for others?

George Eliot.

You and I have no mission in this world more important than to make it easier for men to believe in goodness.

Rev. L. M. Clarke.

To all who may come after me: I hope that no word of mine, written or spoken in my life, will be found to have done harm to any one after I am dead.

Cardinal Manning.

And exercise thyself unto godliness: for bodily excroise is profitable for a little; but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life which now is, and of that which is to come.

I. Tim. 4:7, 8.

THE great aim of Christianity is not to teach men the glory of the life to come, but the sacredness of the life that now is.

From " The Outlook."

RELIGION should be to every man not merely a creed, but an experience; not an insurance for the next world, but a program for the present world.

Rev. James Stalker, D. D.

Consecration to Christ's service is not what we often fancy it—a far away height of religious attainment; it consists in doing the simplest everyday duty that comes to us, in such a spirit as to make it a consecrated work.

Mary H. Howell.

#### August 19

Neglect not the gift that is in thee.

1 Tim. 4:14.

WE secure our possessions by using them; nothing is ours to neglect, or misuse.

Crofut.

WHEN the forenoons of life are wasted, there is not much hope of a peaceful and fruitful evening.

JUST as a limb from disuse may wither and become useless, so the spiritual part of man, if its powers and possibilities are never called into action, will lose its vitality and become a barren waste.

H. H. Boyesen.

Not how shall we escape, if we trample upon the great salvation, or doubt, or despise, or reject it—but if we simply neglect. It is the case of a soul lying fallow.

Drummona.

Prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

Mal. 3: 10.

WE put our own limit to the blessings we receive. All that we will wisely use; all that we are capable of receiving and valuing, God gives to us.

Rev. F. N. Peloubet, D. D.

THE measure of our joy depends not on how much God is willing to give, but on how much our soul is willing and able to receive.

Dr. Lyman Abbott.

Nor with our earthly, but Thy Heavenly measure

Mete Thou Thy store!

Unto us give Thine own abundant treasure, Pressed, running e'er.

The manner of Thy loving grace and pity

We leave to Thee;
High as the heights of Thine Eternal City
Thy mercies be.

Clara Thwaites.

# August 21

All that thou hast commanded us we will do, and whithersoever thou sendest us we will go.

Joshua I : 16.

N OO ye'll ken what faith means. When God tells ye to gang into the mirk, gang!

True obedience has no lead to its heels.

NOTHING can be love to God which does not shape itself into obedience.

F. W. Robertson.

WE know God not by defining him, but by lovingly obeying him.

Dr. J. S. Riggs.

Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord thy God which he hath given thee.

Deut. 16: 17.

EACH one is responsible, not merely for that part of his income which he uses, but for all that God has given him. He is bound to use all as one who must give an account.

Rev. W. D. Sexton.

As you learn, teach; as you get, give; as you receive, distribute.

Spurgeon.

Give, for God to thee hath given; Love, for he by love is known; Child of God and heir of Heaven, Let thy parentage be known.

Not what we receive, but what we give determines our destiny.

#### August 23

But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thine inner chamber, and having shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret.

Matt. 6:6.

WE need to be more alone with God that we may learn, as only in solitude we can learn, the sweet secret of his Fatherhood.

George Dawson.

THE communings of the soul with God are always confidential. The priest admits no listener to the confessional. When God shrives a penitent, He and the penitent are alone.

Dr. Lyman Abbott.

I HAVE found in my own life that there is a very close proportion between the time I spend in communion with God and the amount of power that I have in dealing with men.

Rev. J. A. Torrey.

Behold, happy is the man whom God correcteth.

Job 5: 17.

FOR the burdens which God lays on us, there will always be grace enough. The burdens which we make for ourselves we must carry alone.

Rev. Anthony W. Thorold, D. D.

THE crosses which we make for ourselves by a restless anxiety as to the future are not the crosses which come from God.

Fenelon.

GOD-SENT sorrow is an angel in mourning. But any sorrow that we may rightfully escape is not God-sent.

Garret

# August 25

Lo, we have left all, and followed thee. Matt. 19: 27.

R ESOLVING to forsake all things, remember among them to forsake thyself.

St. Bernard.

Love thyself last! Drink deep The nectared anodyne of selflessness. Edwin Arnold.

To be saved is only this-salvation from our selfishness.

Whittier.

A MAN is his own worst enemy. What greater boon, then, could be offered him than to be saved from himself-from his selfish thoughts, his sinful desires, his petty aims?

Rejoice not against me, O mine enemy: when I fall, I shall arise; when I sit in darkness, the Lord shall be a light unto me.

Micah 7:8.

EVEN should our feet for a moment stumble, it does not follow that we were not treading the highway of holiness.

A. Pearsall Smith.

It is not so much the being exempt from faults as the having overcome them that is an advantage to us.

Swift.

OUR greatest glory is not in never falling, but in rising every time that we fall.

Confucius.

To learn of a fault is an opportunity to add a new line of beauty to the life.

#### August 27

Death and life are in the power of the tongue.

Prov. 18: 21.

A COWSLIP is soft, but it may gie a deadly blow, if there be a stone rolled up at it's heart; and it's the same wi' mony a civil-sounding speech.

WHEN you have a sharp thing to say, mix much love with it.

THERE is a gift that is almost a blow, and there is a kind word that is munificence; so much is there in the way of doing things. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

John 5: 13.

WE estimate a friend's love not so much by what he gives to us as by what he gives up for us.

How different is our love to our friends than Christ's to us. His is a perpetual giving, a constant long-suffering, a tenderness that we cannot measure.

Emily Ellett.

Wouldst know what friend?
Wouldst know what friend is best?
Have God thy friend,
Who passeth all the rest.

# August 29

The soul that sinneth, it shall die: the son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son; the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him.

Ezek. 8: 20.

WE cannot throw the responsibility of our transgressions back on our ancestors. Sin is personal; sin is individual; it is here; it is now; it is sin to-day and yesterday and last week.

Dr. Lyman Abbott.

RESPONSIBILITY is personal. Before God, face to face, each soul must stand to give account.

F. W. Robertson.

If we have been saved, we have been saved individually, not as families, not as congregations, and, on that coming day to which all other days are hastening us, it will be impossible for one to stand in the shade of another.

Whatsoever ye do, work heartily, as unto the Lord, and not unto men.

Col. 3:23.

YOU must live each day at your very best:
The work of the world is done by few;
God asks that a part be done by you.

MIND, it is our best work that He wants, not the dregs of our exhaustion. I think He must prefer quality to quantity.

George Macdonald.

Not the number of acres you till, but the quality of your tilling, determines the profit of the harvest in spiritual as in material farming. This standard exacts no promises, but it accepts no apologies, for there is no occasion for apology when you have done all you can, and until that is done no apologies are accepted.

Jenkin Lloyd Jones.

# August 31

Keep thy heart with all diligence; For out of it are the issues of life. Prov. 4: 23.

TATE 'LL keep a' right an' gude wi' in, Our wark will then be free fra' sin; Upright we 'll step through thick and thin, Straight on our way. Timothy Swan.

THERE is a world within and this is the greater world. If you want a really lovely world without you must make the world within bright and lovely.

David Gregg.

THE song that we hear with our ears is only the song that we sing in our hearts.

September's robes are flushed with golden dye, And magic mists enwrap each shortening day. Louise Brooks.

And now the birds their twittering songs resume,
All Summer silent in the leafy dale,
In Spring they piped of love on every tree,
But now they sing the song of memory.

Hartley Coleridge.

Wherefore look ye so sadly to-day?

Gen. 40:7.

BLESSED are the sorrowful who carry a cheery face.

From "New York Observer,"

But the man worth while
Is the man who will smile
When everything goes dead wrong.
For the test of the heart is trouble,
And it always come with the years,
And the smile that is worth
The praises of earth
Is the smile that shines through tears.

Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

I LIKE the man who faces what he must With step triumphant and a heart of cheer; Who fights the daily battle without fear; Sees his hopes fall, yet keeps unfaltering trust That God is God; that somehow, true and just, His plans work out for mortals.

Sarah K. Bolton.

Only, as the Lord hath distributed to each man, as God hath called each, so let him walk.

I Cor. 7: 7.

IN looking around for Christian work, do not conclude that it must be just such as is done by some one else. Our individual traits and faculties must be consulted, and what our own hands find to do—what they are especially fitted to do—that must indicate our duty.

EVERY human being is intended to have a character of his own, to be what no other is, to do what no other can do.

Dr. William H. Channing.

"No one man
All things can."

It would be a pity he should, for then there would be nothing for the rest of us to work at.

Spurgeon.

Finally, be strong in the Lord, and in the strength of his might.

Eph. 6: 10.

HE who works with God has every reason to feel strong.

It is not the weariness of mortality but the strength of divinity, which we have to recognize.

Ruskin.

ONE man with God on his side is a majority against the world.

Frederick Douglas.

"I can do all things," is the song of triumph Of faith's glad household, in their service free; "My feeble hands have clasped Omnipotence, I can do all in Christ which strengtheneth me."

Clara Thwaites.

I have set thee for a light of the Gentiles, That thou shouldest be for salvation unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Acts II : 47.

CHRISTIANS should be candlesticks, light-bearers, holding forth the word of life to shine in this world's darkness. Every one can shed at least a little light on some of this world's dark spots.

From " Westminster Teacher."

LET your light shine. Revolving flash lights are all right on the seacoast, but all wrong in the Christian life. Shine, keep shining.

Carlos Martyn.

THE fog-bell strikes only on occasion, but all the time and every night the light flashes out from the lighthouse; all the time and every night this light is flashing out from you if you are God's children. "Let your light so shine." Do not flash it—let it shine; just have it, and then let it shine. You cannot let it shine unless you have it, and if you have it you cannot keep it from shining.

Dr. Lyman Abbott.

Therefore be ye also ready. Matt. 2. 44.

NO man is ever off duty. In all places and at all times he is to be armed, watchful, ready for his work.

HAVE thy tools ready: God will find thee work.

Rev. Charles Kingsley.

THAT we are alive to-day is proof positive that God has something for us to do to-day.

Anna Robertson Brown.

PLACE the spindle, hold the distaff, Waiting one; Ply thy hands as at the spinning To be done, And in full, abundant measure, God will give, in his good pleasure, Flax for all thy need. Anna Montague.

Let us therefore draw near with boldness unto the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy, and may find grace to help us in time of need.

Heb. 4: 16.

WE treat God with irreverence by banishing him from our thoughts, not by referring to his will on slight occasions. There is nothing so small, but that we may honor God by asking his guidance of it.

Ruskin

I THINK it is the going to God with our every want that he loves; the oftener we go, the more we please him.

Rose Porter.

THEREFORE, our heavenly Father, We will not fear to pray For the little needs and longings That fill our every day,

# Beptember 7

Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

Gal. 6: 2.

LIFT a little! Lift a little!
Neighbor, lend a helping hand
To that heavy-laden brother,
Who, for weakness, scarce can stand.

Amy A. Headley.

'TIS not enough to help the feeble up

But to support him after.

Shakespeare.

AND still beyond your household duties reaching
Stretch forth a helping hand—
So many stand in need of loving comfort
All over this wide land.

BE not too busy, O thou earnest heart,
To hear what friends are saying at thy side;
To know if cares or joys with them abide,
And for their help or cheer to do thy part.

Olive E. Dana.

But as for thee, the Lord thy God hath not suffered thee so to do.

Deut. 18: 4.

WHAT an almost infinite field there is for mercies negative! We cannot even imagine all that God has suffered us *not* to do, *not* to be.

Frances Ridley Havergal.

WE ought to be grateful first of all, and with the deepest gratitude, that God does not guide us according to our own plans, or send us those experiences which we crave.

Dr. Lyman Abbott.

How many a Christian pilgrim would never have seen anything of the spiritual manna and the spiritual stream from the rock, had God listened to him, when, with fear and trembling, he besought Him not to lead him into a desert.

Krummacher.

Lift up your eyes on high.

Isa. 40: 26.

WHENE'ER we cross a river at a ford, if we would pass in safety, we must keep our eyes fixed stedfast on the shores beyond.

Michael Angelo.

If the tree should say, "I will put my roots deep down into the ground and draw my strength from the earth, but nothing will I receive from the sun that shines far up above my head," that would be quite as wise as for a man to say, "I will use my own energies, I will build myself up by human power and receive nothing from that which is above me."

Rev. Alexander B. Carver, D. D.

THE man who does not look up will look down, and the spirit that does not dare to soar is destined perhaps to grovel.

Lord Beaconsfield.

The prophet that hath a dream, let him tell a dream; and he that hath my word, let him speak my word faithfully.

Fer. 23: 28.

AS we must render an account of every idle word, so must we likewise of our idle silence.

Ambrose.

SILENCE is golden sometimes; dross when ill-timed.

TRUTH is violated by falsehood, and it may be equally outraged by silence.

Ammian.

If you've anything to say, True and needed, yea, or nay, Say it.

From " Uplands of God."

Wherefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not vain in the Lord-

I Cor. 15: 58.

O TOILER in this world of sin, And hast thou toiled in vain to win Some soul to thy dear Saviour's love? "In vain," thou hast no right to say; No work for Christ is thrown away. Egbert L. Bangs.

THE look of sympathy, the gentle word Spoken so low that only angels heard; The secret act of pure self-sacrifice, Unseen by man, but marked by angel's eyes, These are not lost.

Metcalf.

I know not why, but I am sure That tint and place, In some great fabric to endure Past time and race My threads will have.

Helen Hunt Fackson.

Go therefore now, and work.

Ex. 5: 8.

COME take that task of yours which you have been hesitating before, and shirking, and walking around, and on this very day lift it up and do it.

Phillips Brooks.

No cheating nor bargaining will ever get a single thing out of nature's "establishment" at half price. Do we want to be strong?—we must work. To be hungry?—we must starve. To be happy?—we must be kind. To be wise?—we must look and think.

Ruskin.

Things don't turn up in this world, until somebody turns them up.

James A. Garfield.

NEITHER in religion nor in common life do people find great results wrought without great cost.

Rev. L. M. Clarke.

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

Isa, 26; 3.

I F thou couldst trust, poor soul,
In Him who rules the whole,
Thou wouldst find peace and rest,
Wisdom and sight are well, but
Trust is best.

Adelaide A. Procter

Is not His will the wisest; is not His choice the best:

And in perfect acquiescence, is there not perfect rest?

Frances Ridley Havergal.

To see the hand of God in the present, and to trust the future in the hand of God, is the secret of peace. Yet even now, saith the Lord, turn ye unto me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: and rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the Lord your God. Foel 2: 12, 13,

Or outward form of prayer;
But let it in thine heart be known
That penitence is there.
Thy breast to beat, thy clothes to rend,
God asketh not of thee;
The stubborn soul He bids thee bend
In true humility.

REPENTANCE is a desire not for escape from penalty, but for restoration to God and deliverance from sin itself.

Dr. Lyman Abboit.

What is true repentance but in thought—
Not e'en in inmost thought to think again
The sins that made the past so pleasant to us.

Tennyson.

But we all, with unveiled face reflecting as a mirror the glory of the Lord, are transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord the Spirit.

2 Cor. 3: 18,

A CHRISTIAN is a man who is restoring God's likeness to his character.

F. W. Robertson.

PAUL tells us that if we live in Christ we are changed into his image. All that a man has to do, then, to be like Christ, is simply to live in friendship with Christ, and the character follows.

Drummond.

WE do not know Christ only by reading about his life and miracles, but by having him formed in our hearts, by making ourselves Christs to other souls, by letting his spirit act in and through us, and so leading others to him.

James Freeman Clarke.

Though 11 tarry, walt for it; because it will surely come, it will not delay.

Hab. 2:3.

NOT every accepted prayer is immediately an answered prayer.

Matthew Henry.

NEVER think that God's delays are God's denials. Hold on; hold fast; hold out. Patience is genius.

Buffon.

WE get the best results when we are willing just to tell him what we want and to leave ourselves in his hands.

To pray is but half of the Christian's privilege; to watch for the answer is the other half. Dr. Nehemiah Boynton.

Why stand ye here all the day idle ?

Matt. 20:6.

GOD gives his days for us to use
For some good purpose. If we choose
To squander them, how great our sin!
I shudder when I think he keeps
A record of them all, and weeps
To see the misspent ones therein.

Eben E. Rexford.

EVERY day ought to see something definite done for God and one's fellow-men; then the

life will sum up well.

What hast thou done to-day for God?
Answer, O soul of mine!
What thorny pathway hast thou trod,
Trusting in strength divine?
What gift upon the altar laid,
Of all that was most dear?
Or hast thou meagre tribute paid,
With less of love than fear?

Kate Cameron.

they that sow in tears shall reap in joy.

Ps. 126:5.

WHY is the sun more bright for rain?
Why does night bring forth the day?
Why do souls grow strong through pain?
'T is God's way.

God said to man and woman, "By thy sweat, And by thy travail thou shalt conquer earth," Not by thy ease or pleasure; and no good Or glory of this life but comes by pain. Harriet E. H. King.

IF you would not have affliction visit you twice, listen at once to that which it teaches.

To bear pain is hard, but to lose the lessons of pain is harder yet.

Strengthen ye the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees.

Isa. 35 : 3.

H APPY ye of whom Jesus has some favor to ask. He does not always bind up the heart by the comfort of gentle words; but he makes a request for some easy service to himself, or he suggests some duty to others.

W. R. Campbell.

THE truest help we can offer to an afflicted man is not to take his burden from him, but to call out his best strength that he may be able to bear the burden.

Phillips Brooks.

Nothing makes a man strong like a call upon him for help.

George Macdonald.

He that giveth unto the poor shall not lack.

Prov. 28: 27.

FOR the soul grows rich in giving,
All its wealth is living gain,
Seeds that mildew in the garner,
Scattered, fill with gold the plain.

Mrs. Charles.

A CHILD of God was never made bankrupt by his benevolence. We may lose what we keep, but what we give to Christ we are sure to keep.

Rev. T. L. Cuyler, D. D.

WE can all do more than we have done, And not be a whit the worse, It never was loving that emptied the heart, Nor giving that emptied the purse.

AND daily, hourly, loving and giving
In the poorest life make heavenly living.

Rose Terry Cooke.

Be not therefore anxious for the morrow: for the morrow will be anxious for itself.

Matt. 6: 34.

BUILD a little fence of trust around to-day, Fill the space with loving work and therein stay,

Look not through the sheltering bars upon tomorrow,

God will help thee bear what comes of joy, or sorrow.

Mrs. M. F. Butts.

Why shouldest thou fill to-day with sorrow
About to-morrow,
My heart?

My heart?

One watches all with care most true; Doubt not that he will give thee, too, Thy part.

Paul Fleming.

STRENGTH for to-day is all that we need
As there never will be a to-morrow:
For to-morrow will prove but another to-day.
With its measure of joy and sorrow.

Now therefore know and consider what thou wilt do.

I Sam, 25: 17.

LIFE is a burden imposed upon you by God. What you make of it, that it will be to you. Take it up bravely, bear it on joyfully, lay it down triumphantly.

Gail Hamilton.

A SACRED burden is this life ye bear;
Look on it; lift it, bear it solemnly,
Stand up and walk beneath it steadfastly.
Fail not for sorrow, falter not for sin;
But onward, upward, till the goal ye win.
Frances A. Kemble.

WE take with solemn thankfulness
Our burden up, nor ask it less,
And count it joy that even we
May suffer, serve, or wait for Thee,
Whose will be done!

Whittier.

### September 23

Ye are not your own; for ye were bought with a price.

I Cor. 6:19, 20.

SET apart for Jesus!
Is not this enough,
Though the desert prospect
Open wild and rough?
Set apart for his delight,
Chosen for his holy pleasure,
Sealed to be his special treasure!
Frances Ridley Havergal.

My life is not my own, but Christ's, who gave it, And he bestows it upon all the race; I lose it for his sake, and thus I save it; I hold it close, but only to expend it; Accept it, Lord, for others, through thy grace.

Only thine own to be,
Only to live to thee.
Thine with each day begun,
Thine with each set of sun,
Thine till my work is done.

Anna Warner.

Therefore let us also, seeing we are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.

Heb. 12: 1.

GO make thy garden fair as thou canst, Thou workest never alone; Perchance he whose plot is next to thine Will see it, and mend his own.

ONE must look downwards as well as upwards in human life. Though many have passed you in the race, there are many you have left behind. Sydney Smith.

THERE are many and many around you
Who follow wherever you go;
If you thought that they walked in the shadow,
Your lamp would shine brighter, I know.

## September 25

And he called him, and said unto him, What is chis that I hear of thee? render the account of thy stewardshib.

Luke 16:2.

OD bends from out the deep and says, "I gave thee of my seed to sow, Bringest thou me my hundred fold?" Can I look up with face aglow, And answer, "Father, here is gold?" Lornell.

How sweet 't would be at evening If you and I could say, Good Shepherd, we 've been seeking The sheep that went astray: Heart-sore and faint with hunger, We hear them making moan, And, lo! we come at nightfall, Bearing them safely home.

WHAT if the Master came To-night, and called your name, Asking how many sheaves your hands had made? If at the Lord's commands You showed but empty hands, Condemned, your dreaming soul would stand dismayed.

From " The Desired Haven."

Behold, we call them blessed which endured.

James 5; 11.

WHO best can suffer, best can do.

Milton.

To dare is great; to bear is greater.

Bravery we share with the brutes; fortitude with saints.

Rev. Charles F. Deems.

When the blast cometh, then fleeteth away the chaff; but the wheat remaineth, cleansed and known to be wheat.

J. Bradford.

TWENTY Christians can fight heroically where one can suffer greatly and be strong and be still.

Rev. T. L. Cuyler, D. D

## September 27

And it came to pass, as Aaron spake unto the whole congregation of the children of Israel, that they looked toward the wilderness, aud, behold, the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud.

Ex. 16: 10.

THE clouds have a silver lining,
Do n't forget;
And though he 's hidden, still the sun is shining
Courage! instead of tears and vain repining,
Just bide a wee, and dinna fret.

GET into the habit of looking for the silver lining of the cloud, and, when you have found it, continue to look at it, rather than at the leaden gray in the middle. It will help you over many hard places.

A. A. Willits.

THERE are nettles everywhere,
But smooth green grasses are more common still.
The blue of heaven is larger than the cloud.

Elizabeth Barrett Browning.

For the eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, And his ears unto their supplication.

I Peter 3: 12.

LEARN to entwine with your prayers the small cares, the trifling sorrows, the little wants of daily life. Whatever affects you turn it into prayer and send it up to God.

And may we tell him all things nor offend him?
Will he not weary of our ceaseless plaint?
And does he care to have us bring before him
Our every need with childlike unconstraint?

BE still, O heart! The Lord of glory
Was once a man acquaint with grief.
He bends to hear—tell all thy story,
He loves, he cares, he 'll send relief.

Jean H. Watson,

## September 29

Thou thoughtest that I was altogether such an one as thyself-

Ps. 50 : 21.

M EN every day measure the Christ by themselves. How much better, if they measured themselves by the Christ!

Lew Wallace

WE must look out and around to see what God is like. It is when we persist in turning our eyes inward and prying curiously over our own imperfections, that we learn to make a God after our own image and fancy that our darkness and hardness are the patterns of his light and love.

Rev. Charles Kingsley.

If you want to be wretched, look within; if you want to be distracted, look around; if you want to have peace, look up.

Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

2 Cor. 6 : 2.

WHY do we heap huge mounds of years
Before us and behind,
And scorn the little days that pass
Like angels on the wind?

Dinah Muloch Craik.

THE present moment is divinely sent;
The present duty is thy Master's will.
Oh, thou who longest for some noble work,
Do thou this hour thy given task fulfill!
And thou shalt find, though small at first it
seemed,

It is the work of which thou oft hast dreamed.

Anna Temple.

"The best of days for mending your ways."
This very day is the best. Every moment you remain in sin, you sin again. Till your debt is paid, your debt increases.

Spurgeon.

To-morrow has no overflow to make good a lost yesterday.



Boughs are daily rifled By the gusty thieves, And the book of Nature Getteth short of leaves.

Thomas Hood.

Chestnuts, clicking, one by one,
Escape from satin burs; her fringes done,
The gentian spreads them out in sunny days;
And, like late revelers at dawn, the chance
Of one sweet, mad, last hour, all things assail.
Helen Hunt Jackson.

The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.

Ps. 34:7.

THE crown must be won for heaven, dear,
In the battlefield of life;
My child, though thy foes are strong and tried,
He loveth the weak and small;
The angels of heaven are on thy side
And God is over all.

Adelaide A. Procter.

THOUGH Satan ever stands beside us, it is a comfort to know that God is beside us too, if we are his.

From "Westminster Teacher."

SATAN is never allowed to go unchallenged. The angel is near to dispute his right. No child of humanity is ever left wholly alone under the power of evil.

Rev. C. A. Dickinson.

For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remained no more a sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful expectation of judgment.

Heb. 10: 26, 27.

SIN is that awful thing which looks God in the face and says, "I won't."

Dr. A. F. Beard.

I COULD not live in peace if I put the shadow of a wilful sin between myself and God.

George Eliot.

EVERY man who lives in the habitual practice of any voluntary sin cuts himself off from Christianity.

Addison.

OUR indulged sin may so cloud the sky that it spreads a mist, so that to see what God is doing is impossible.

J. Newton.

In the multitude of words there wanteth not transgression:

But he that refraineth his lips doeth wisely.

Prov. 10: 10.

THERE are two good rules which ought to be written on every heart: never to believe anything bad about anybody unless you positively know it to be true; never to tell even that unless you feel that it is absolutely necessary and that God is listening while you tell it.

\*Dr. Henry Van Dyke.\*

A JUDICIOUS silence is always better than truth spoken without charity.

Francis de Sales.

A GOOD word is an easy obligation: but not to speak ill requires only our silence, which costs us nothing.

Tillotson.

The ill-timed truth we might have kept,
Who knows how sharp it pierced and stung?
The word we had not sense to say—
Who knows how grandly it had rung?

Edward Rowland Sill.

The beloved of the Lord shall dwell in safety by him; He covereth him all the day long, And he dwelleth between his shoulders.

Deut. 33: 12.

TITHEN we are weak and wretched, By our sins weighed down, distressed, Then it is that God's great patience Holds us closest, loves us best.

Saxe Holm

AND I have learned, the weakest ones Are kept securest from life's harms; And that the tender lambs alone Are carried in the shepherd's arms. Phæbe Carv.

To his own thy Saviour giveth Daily strength: To each troubled soul that liveth Peace at length; Weakest lambs have largest sharing Of this tender Shepherd's caring; Ask him not then-when or how-Only bow.

Karl Rudolph Hagenbach,

Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

Phil. 2: 12.

WE are builders, and each one Should cut and carve as best he can. Every life is but a stone; Every man shall hew his own; Make or mar shall every man.

Bishop Doane.

God makes the rims in which we are placed, but we ourselves can make our lives what we will within these rims.

Mrs. A. D. T. Whitney

CIRCUMSTANCES are beyond the control of man, but his conduct is in his own power.

Disraeli.

WE are accountable, not for what we are made, but for what we make ourselves; not for our condition, but for what we make of our condition.

Rufus Ellis.

But thou, why dost thou judge thy brother?

Rom, 14: 10.

ALWAYS think the best of a man.

Lord Bolingbroke.

Dare we condemn the ills that others do?

Dare we condemn?

Their strength is small, their trials not a few,

The tide of wrong is difficult to stem;

And if to us more clearly than to them

Is given knowledge of the great and true,

More do they need our help and pity too.

Dare we condemn?

What man can judge his neighbor aright save he whose love makes him refuse to judge him.

George Macdonald.

WE are not all put together alike and we may misjudge one another.

George Eliot.

For he that soweth unto his own flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth unto the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap eternal life.

Gal 6:8.

ACTION repeated becomes habit. Habit long continued becomes second nature. We are to-day what we were accustomed to do yesterday and the day before.

Dr. Lyman Abbott.

The whim of to-day is the impulse of tomorrow—the wish of next week—the good or bad taste of next month—the habit of next year —the instinct of your descendants.

Alice W. Rollins.

"How shall I a habit break?"
As you did that habit make;
As you gathered, you must lose;
As you yielded, now refuse.
Thread by thread the strands we twist,
Till they bind us neck and wrist;
Thread by thread the patient hand
Must untwine, ere free we stand.

John Boyle O'Reilly.

It is the Lord: let him do what seemeth him good.

1 Sam. 3:18.

# DISAPPOINTMENTS are His appointments.

But shall God's appointments seem less good than what thyself had planned?

Margaret E. Sangster.

No shattered box of ointment
We ever need regret,
For out of disappointment
Flow sweetest odors yet.
Frances Ridley Havergal.

DISAPPOINTMENTS and distress are often blessings in disguise.

And establish thou the work of our hands upon us; Yea, the work of our hands establish thou it.

Ps. 90 : 17.

THE work of our hands—establish thou it,
How often with thoughtless lips we pray,
But He who sits in the heavens shall say,
"Is the work of your hands so fair and fit
That ye dare thus pray?"
Safely we answer, "Lord make it fit—
The work of our hands, that so we may
Lift up our eyes and dare to pray,
The work of our hands—establish thou it."

WE must do a work with our hands or we cannot offer this prayer.

Margaret Bottome.

WE cannot pray as we ought unless we live as we ought.

With men it is impossible, but not with God: for all things are possible with God.

Mark 10: 27.

MAN'S impossibilities are God's easies.

T. De Witt Talmadge.

NOTHING is too hard for God; therefore nothing to which he calls is too hard for those who trust him.

From "Pilgrim Teacher."

GOD never commands what we cannot perform: hence, when he says, "Be faithful," "Be strong," the command implies the ability to be strong and to become stronger.

Dr. Leroy M. Vernon.

And Paul said, I would to God, that whether with little or with much, not thou only, but also all that hear me this day, might become such as I am, except these bonds.

Acts 26: 29.

RE such a man, live such a life that, if every man were such as you and every life like yours, this earth would be God's paradise. Phillips Brooks.

IF every person would be half as good as her expects his neighbor to be, what a heaven this world would be.

So act that your principle of action would bear to be made a law for the whole world.

Kant

BE noble, and the nobleness that lies In other men, sleeping, but never dead, Will rise in majesty to meet thine own.

Lowell.

Go to now, ye that say, To-day or to-morrow we will go into this city, and spend a year there, and trade, and get gain: whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow.

James 4: 13, 14.

FUTURE! Thou art a cruel thief, for thou dost rob us of what we are and leave us pursuing, but never catching thee.

Dr. Lyman Abbott.

'To-MORROW I will live, the fool doth say!

To-day itself 's too late;—the wise lived yesterday.

Young.

SAY not to-morrow, to-day is but your own To parcel as you will,

For who can tell that, when the day has flown, He shall be living still?

Charles S. O'Neil.

FAITH in to-morrow instead of in Christ is Satan's ruse for man's perdition.

Cheever.

And I will bring the blind by a way that may know not: in paths that they know not will I lead them I will make darkness light before them, and crooked These things will I do, and I will places straight. not forsake them.

Isa. 42: 16.

A SINGLE step and again a step, Until by safe degrees, The milestones passed, we win at last Home, when the King shall please. And the strangest thing is often this, That the briery, tangled spots Which cumber our feet, should be thicl and sweet

> With our Lord's forget-me-nots. Margaret E. Sangster.

JUST as God leads me I would go: I would not ask to choose my way, Content with what he will bestow. Assured he will not let me stray. So, as he leads, my path I make, And step by step I gladly take, A child in him confiding.

Lampertius.

"So!" by small, slow footsteps, By the daily cross, By the heart's unspoken yearning, By its grief and loss:

" So," He brings them home to rest, With the victors, crowned and blessed.

J. M. Harrison

Who comforteth us in all our affliction, that we may be able to comfort them that are in any affliction, through the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God. For as the sufferings of Christ abound unto us, even so our comfort also aboundeth through Christ.

2 Cor. 2:4,5.

ASK God to give thee skill in comfort's art,
That thou mayst consecrated be
And set apart

Unto a life of sympathy.

For heavy is the weight of ill In every heart,

And comforters are needed much
Of Christ-like touch.

Anna E. Hamilton.

If you would have the priestly gift of sympathy, you must be content to pay the price; like Him—you must suffer.

F. W. Robertson.

This is a wonderful power which God gives us when he first blesses us and then sends us forth to bless others. But it costs self-sacrifice to be a blessing.

C. L. Goodell.

Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated wickedness: Therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee With the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

Ps. 45:7.

IT is worth a thousand pounds a year to have the habit of looking on the bright side of things.

Dr. Samuel Johnson.

It is a part of my religion to look well after the cheerfulnesses of life and let the dismals shift for themselves.

Louisa M. Alcott.

It's a stumpy world, but some folks step right over their stumps without scarcely knowing when.

Mrs. A. D. T. Whitney.

I FIND earth not gray but rosy,
Heaven not grim but fair of hue.
Do I stoop? I pluck a posy.
Do I stand and stare? All's blue.
Robert Browning.

There hath no temptation taken you but such as man can bear: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation make also the way of escape, that ye may be able to endure it.

I Cor. 10:13.

HE who is sore pressed by temptation need not flatter himself that by and by temptation will cease, and he be so delivered from sin; for temptation will not cease, and help must come from strength given to the inner man, lifting the soul above all temptation.

Thomas Hill.

MOMENTS of what seem to us sudden temptation are seldom really sudden. God has given us our times of preparation, and if we have wilfully neglected them the conflict is severer, or perhaps ends in defeat.

Edna Lyal<sup>1</sup>.

God will either shield us from temptation, or give us strength to resist it.

For he beholdeth himself, and goeth away, and straightway forgotteth what manner of man he was.

James 1: 24.

COULDST thou in vision see
Thyself the man God meant,
Thou never more wouldst be
The man thou art—content.
Emily Tolman.

STRANGE, that we creatures of the petty ways,
Poor prisoners behind these fleshly bars,
Can sometimes think us thoughts with God
ablaze,

Touching the fringes of the outer stars.

And stranger still that, having flown so high,
And stood unshamed in shining presences,
We can resume our smallness, nor imply
In mien, or gesture what that memory is.

Richard E. Burton.

The most difficult of tasks to keep Heights which the soul is competent to gain. *Wordsworth.*  Clear thou me from hidden faults.

Ps. 19:12.

OUR prayer each day should be that God would show us our secret faults, whatever messengers he may send to point them out, and then give us grace to correct them.

Rev. J. R. Miller, D. D.

It is the secret sin that oftenest keeps a soul from Christ.

Rev. T. L. Cuyler, D. D.

WOULD to God I had no other sins to answer for than those which the world knows of.

WHATEVER unfits the soul for its highest life or stops in it the work of Christ, shall be sin to Him.

Phillips Brooks.

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance of our God.

Isa. 61:1,2.

CHRIST alone can save the world, but Christ can't save the world alone.

ONLY Christ can influence the world, but all that the world sees of Christ is what it sees through you and me.

Drummond.

CHRIST would still seek the lost, but he must do it now on our feet; he would still minister, but he must do it with our hands; he would still warn and comfort and encourage and instruct, but he must do it with our lips. If we refuse to perform these offices for him, what right have we to call ourselves members of his body, in vital union with him?

Rev. Josiah Strong, D. D.

He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he who taketh a city.

Prov. 16:32.

SOUL, rule thyself. On passion, deed, desire,

Lay thou the laws of thy deliberate will Stand at thy chosen post, faith's sentinel, Tho' hell's lost legions ring thee round with fire.

Fohn Addington Symonds.

On! doubt it not, if thou wouldst wear the crown,

Self, baser self, must first be trampled down.

John Askham.

True strength to break the tempter's snare.

Philip Doddridge.

You can have no dominion greater, or less than that of yourself.

Da Vinci.

Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss.

Fames 4:3.

I SOMETIMES think God's tender heart must ache,

Listening to all the sad, complaining cries That from our weak, impatient souls arise, Because we do not see that for our sake He answers not, or answers otherwise Than seems the best to our tearblinded eyes.

PRAY; though the gift you ask for May never comfort your fears,
May never repay your pleading,
Yet pray, and with hopeful tears;
An answer, not that you long for,
But diviner will come one day;
Your eyes are too dim to see it,
Yet strive, and wait, and pray.

Adelaide A. Procter.

It is the greatest blessing that our petitions are so many of them denied; it is the redemption of God's pledge,—"There shall no evil befall thee." Few of us could bear the answer to all our prayers, which represent largely transient wishes, instead of deep-felt needs.

Dr. Nehemiah Boynton.

For a righteous man falleth seven times, and riseth up again:

But the wicked are overthrown by calamity.

Prov. 24:16

FAILURE, after long perseverance, is much grander than never to have a striving good enough to be called a failure.

George Eliot.

IT is the evidence of the divine possibilities of life that the defeats of to-day may be made the forerunners of the victories of to-morrow, and that the consciousness of failure may become in itself a new element of success.

Our failures pave the road to ruin or success.

William C. Ganneit.

Nor deem the irrevocable past As wholly wasted, wholly vain, If, rising on its wrecks, at last To something nobler we attain.

Longfetlow.

Till we all attain unto the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the son of God, unto a full-grown man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

Eph. 4:13.

"COMING nearer and nearer to Christ," we say. That does not mean creeping into a refuge where we can be safe. It means becoming better and better men; repeating his character more and more in ours.

Phillips Brooks.

FOR the life must develop out according to its type; and being a germ of the Christ-life, it must unfold into a Christ.

Drummond.

If the life of Christ be not your pattern, the death of Christ will never be your pardon.

Ye must be born anew.

John 3:7.

MAN is twice born: the first time when he is made in the image of God; the second time when he becomes conscious of it.

If thou art not born again, all thy outward reformation is naught; thou hast shut the door, but the thief is still in the house.

CONVERSION is no repairing of the old building; but it takes all down and erects a new structure. The sincere Christian is quite a new fabric, from the foundation to the top-stone all new.

Alleine.

Brethren, my heart's desire and my subblication to God is for them, that they may be saved.

Rom. 10 : 1.

TACH of us ought to have some soul especially in his thoughts. If there is a Christian who has not on his heart some especial one whom he is trying to bring to Jesus by speaking or writing to him, he is false to the very idea of Christ's kingdom.

Rev. Wayland Hoyt, D. D.

THE great problem is not how to save the world, but how to persuade each Christian that it is his business to be the means of saving some one man in the world.

Rev. C. H. Parkhurst, D. D.

WE must save the world one by one. Do not try to save it as a whole, but save one sinner. Charles M. Southgate.

Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts?

Matt. 9:4.

A MAN'S world is what his heart makes it to be. When his heart changes, the world changes.

LET him go where he will he can only find so much beauty or worth as he carries.

Emerson.

It is at our own will whether we see in the despised stream the refuse of the street, or, looking deep enough, the image of the sky.

Ruskin.

AND life's field will yield as we make it, A harvest of thorns, or of flowers.

#### October 27

To-morrow shall be as this day.

Isa. 56:12.

MAKE this forenoon sublime, this afternoon a psalm, this night a prayer, and life is conquered and thy crown is won.

Edward Rowland Sill.

EVERY day is a little life, and our whole life is but a day repeated. Those, therefore, that dare waste a day, are dangerously prodigal; those that dare misspend it, desperate.

Bishop Hall.

NEVER a day is given
But it tones the after years,
And it carries up to heaven
Its sunshine or its tears;
While the to-morrows stand and wait—
The silent mutes by the outer gate.

ONLY a day, yet forever
Its impulse shall with thee remain;
And the fruit of its labour shall never
Be given to ripen again,

W. Fletcher Johnson.

Ye take too much upon you.

Numbers 16: 13.

DON'T take up everything. The Lord seldom gives one great outside mission; he never gives half a dozen at a time.

Mrs. A. D. T. Whitney.

SOME of us fail and falter and fall because we attempt too much.

Better is a lowly service thoroughly performed than a great task attempted and given up in despair.

WE are not satisfied to do simply the things that we can do. We must draw something too hard for us; sing songs that have notes too high for us.

William M. Hunt.

WE long to use what lies beyond our scope, Yet cannot use even what within it lies.

Goethe.

And if I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and if I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profiteth me nothing.

I Cor. 13:3.

G<sup>OD</sup> weigheth more with how much love a man worketh than how much he doeth.

Thomas a Kempis.

It is not the deed that we do,
Though the deed be ever so fair,
But the love that the dear Lord looketh for,
Hidden with holy care,
In the heart of the deed so fair.

Harriet M. Kimball.

The sweetest lives are those to duty wed,
Whose deeds both great and small
Are close-knit strands of an unbroken thread,
Where love ennobles all.

Elizabeth Barrett Browning.

Let each man abide in that calling wherein he was called.

I Cor. 7: 20.

IT is not wise for a Peter to try to be a John, but rather to be the best Peter possible; and John to be the best John possible rather than seek to be a Paul.

Mary Lyon.

MAKE the best

Of the gifts and the work put before you,

And to God without fear leave the rest.

William Newell.

If we cannot work out the will of God where God has placed us, then why has he placed us there?

I. H. Thom.

God plants us where we grow.

Robert Browning.

#### October 31

How long halt ye between two opinions? if the Lord be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him.

I Kings 18: 21.

GOD or the world—not both; no man can serve two masters.

F. W. Robertson.

THE most of the difficulties of trying to live the Christian life, arise from attempting to half live it.

Drummond.

How shall we rest in God? By giving ourselves wholly to him. If you give yourself by halves, you cannot find full rest; there will ever be a lurking disquiet in that half which is withheld.

Jean Nicolas Grau.

Life is a service; the only question is, whom will we serve?

F. W. Faber.

These are the days when the skies put on The old, old sophistries of June— A blue and gold mistake. Emily Dickinson.

Shorter and shorter now the twilight clips

The days as through the sunset gates they crowd.

Let each man be fully assured in his own mind. Rom. 14:5.

 $\Delta$ SK thy lone soul what laws are plain to thee, Thee and no other; stand or fall by them. This is the part for thee.

Robert Browning.

By thine own soul's law learn to live, And if men thwart thee, take no heed; And if men hate thee, have no care. Sing thou thy song and do thy deed. Pakenham Beatty.

IF any speak ill of thee, fly home to thy conscience and examine thy heart.

George Herbert.

A MAN can bear A world's contempt, when he has that within Which says he 's worthy.

Alexander Smith.

That ye may be blameless and harmless, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom ye are seen as lights in the world.

Phil. 2: 15.

# MAKE thy life better than thy work.

If in the too brief day thou must neglect
Thy labor or thy life, let men detect
Flaws in thy work, while their most searching
gaze

Can fall on nothing which they may not praise In thy well chiseled character.

Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

THERE is one thing in the wide universe which is really valuable, and that is—character.

John Toda.

CHARACTER is what a man is in his inmost thought.

Cardinal Newman.

Verily I say unto you, This poor widow cast in more than all they which are casting into the treasury: for they did cast in of their superfluity; but she of her want did cast in all that she had, even all her living.

Mark 12: 43, 44.

GIVING is not the throwing away of that which we never miss, but it is the consecrating to noble uses that which is very dear to us, that which has cost us much.

Fenkin Lloyd Fones.

A GIFT to the Lord is to be measured by its self-denial, not by its actual amount; or, as one has happily put it, by what remains, not by what is given.

Rev. A. P. Foster, D. D.

HE that gives all, though but little, gives much; because God looks not to the quantity of the gift, but to the quality of the giver.

Francis Quarles.

Seemeth it a small thing unto you?

Ezekiel 34:18.

HE that hath slight thoughts of sin, never hath great thoughts of God.

Owen.

It is as supreme a folly to talk of a little sin as it would be to talk of a small decalogue that forbids it, or a diminutive God that hates it, or a shallow hell that will punish it. Sin is registered according to heavenly measurements of holiness and majesty.

Rev. Charles S. Robinson, D. D.

A SINGLE sin, however apparently trifling, however hidden in some obscure corner of our consciousness—a sin that we do not intend to renounce—is enough to render real prayer impracticable.

F. B. Cobb.

Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that is exalted against the knowledge of God, and bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ.

2 Cor. 10: 5.

ENTERTAIN no thoughts that will blush in words.

PRUNE thou thy words, the thoughts control
That o'er thee swell and throng;
They will condense within thy soul
And change to purpose strong.

Cardinal Newman.

Good thoughts, like holy angels
To guard the soul from sin,
Will help to keep us pure and true,
No evil hid within.
Oh, let us ever cherish
Good thoughts within the breast;

To purity and goodness So shall our lives attest.

Abby M. Gannett.

For ye have need of patience, that, having done the will of God, ye may receive the promise.

Heb. 10: 36.

I T seems cruel to be laying down a lesson for one who is smarting under a heavy blow; and yet the true lesson of a sorrow cannot be learned unless one also learns how to walk in the crowded world without pricking others with his own thorn-crown. It is not given to us to carry the cross alone but in companionship, and so the way in which it is carried is as much to be considered as the carrying of it.

To be patient under a heavy cross is no small praise; to be contented is more; but to be cheerful is the highest pitch of Christian fortitude.

Bishop Hall.

IT is not mere endurance, but right endurance of affliction that brings blessing.

F. H. Evans.

It shall be told thee what thou must do.

Acts 9: 6.

CAN man or woman choose duties? No more than they can choose their birthplace, or their father and mother.

George Eliot.

Ir is thy duty oftentimes to do what thou wouldst not; thy duty, too, to leave undone what thou wouldst do.

Thomas a Kempis.

THE secret of life is not to do what one likes, but to try to like that which one has to do; and one does like it—in time.

Dinah Muloch Craik.

The straightest way, perhaps, which may be sought,

Lies through the great highway men call—"I ought."

The eyes of man are never satisfied.

Prov. 27: 20.

M ANY of our cares are but a morbid way of looking at our privileges.

Walter Scott.

THERE 'S no dearth of kindness In this world of ours: Only, in our blindness, We gather thorns for flowers.

Massey.

THERE 's generally more comfort than ache, if we did n't live right in the middle of the ache.

Some people are always grumbling because' roses have thorns. I am thankful that thorns have roses.

Alphonse Karr.

For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, that ye may be strengthened with bower through his Spirit in the inward man.

Eph. 3: 14-16.

OD make thee beautiful within.

Whittier.

AFTER all, it is not what is around us, but what is in us; not what we have, but what we are, that makes us really happy.

Geikie.

The years write their records on men's hearts, as they do on trees; inner circles of growth which no eye can see.

Saxe Holm.

THE question is not, "Art thou in the nobility," but, "Is there nobility in thee?" Then took I the cup at the Lord's hand.

Fer. 25:17

DOES your cup taste bitter? He drank it first and places it to your lips where his left it, that his fragrance may sweeten the draught.

Rev. John McNeil.

The cross that he gave may be heavy,
But it ne'er outweighs his grace;
The storm that I feared may surround me,
But it ne'er excludes his face;
The thorns in my path are not sharper
Than composed his crown for me;
The cup which I drink not more bitter
Than he drank in Gethsemane.

Ballington Booth.

THE cross is heavy, child! Yet there was one
Who bore a heavier for thee: my Son,
My well beloved. For him bear thine and stand
With him at last; and from thy Father's hand,
Thy cross laid down,
Receive a crown, my child!

H. N. Cobb.

He that walketh in darkness, and hath no light, let him trust in the name of the Lord, and stay upon his God.

Isa. 50: 10.

I KNOW not why my path should be at times So straitly hedged, so strangely barred before;

I only know God could keep wide the door; But I can trust.

To trust God when our warehouses and bags are full, and our tables are spread, is no hard thing; but to trust him when our purses are empty, but a handful of meal and cruse of oil left, and all the ways of relief stopped—herein lies the wisdom of a Christian's grace.

It is the easiest thing in the world to obey God when he commands us to do what we like, and to trust him when the path is all sunshine. The real victory of faith is to trust God in the dark and through the dark.

Rev. T. L. Cuyler, D. D.

For each man shall bear his own burden.

Gal. 6: 5.

EVERY man has his chain and his clog, and he is more at ease who takes it up than he who drags it.

Lift your burden from the ground,
Do not drag it round and round.
Lift your burden, soul, and try
To bear it upward to the sky.
As the birds in upward flight
Pass from darkness into light,
Souls, too, soar to better things,
Borne on burdens used as wings.
Frances S. Riker.

We all must bear them. Why despair?
The wine-press is not trod alone.
The promise is that He will carc,
As doth a father, for his own.
Our burdens may become our wings
For underneath his arms will be;
And through our sighing, sweetly rings,
"Sufficient is my grace for thee."

Myra Goodwin Plantz.

Doth not he that weigheth the hearts consider it?

And he that keepeth thy soul, doth not he know it?

Prov. 24:12.

GOD takes men's hearty desires and will instead of the deed, when they have not the power to fulfill it; but he never took the bare deed instead of the will.

Baxter.

So do I gather strength and hope anew; For well I know thy patient love perceives Not what I did, but what I strove to do. Elizabeth Akers.

A NOBLE aspiration is a deed,
Though unachieved, and He who judges
man
Upon his lofty throne will give it heed.

To the weak I became weak, that I might gain the weak: I am become all things to all men, that I may by all means save some.

I Cor. 9: 22.

WHERE the heart is most human, there is the most tenderness; the higher and broader the soul, the greater the contact with others, in the more points can it touch all other souls.

Jenkin Lloyd Jones.

As Jacob in his dream saw on the ladders of heaven the angels of God not only ascending, but also descending, so forever do the good and true come down into a greater sympathy while they go up into loftier purity.

James Freeman Clarke.

THE man most man, with tenderest human hands,

Works best for men,—as God in Nazareth.

Elizabeth Barrett Browning.

# Hovember 15

Wherefore if any man is in Christ, he is a new creature: the old things are passed away; behold, they are become new.

2 Cor. 5: 17.

WE put off the old man as the snake puts off his old skin by outgrowing it.

Dr. Lyman Abbott.

Some persons, instead of "putting off the old man," dress him up in new shape.

St. Bernard.

When the "new man" is put on, the "old man" is not, alas, put off; he is only put under.

Porter.

Be content, I pray thee.

Judges 16:6.

MAY they be content to stand where the dear Lord put them and fulfill the office that he needs someone to fulfill.

In just that very place of his
Where he hath put and keepeth you,
God hath no other thing to do.

Mrs. A. D. T. Whitney.

WHEREVER we are, we may do something for Christ. Some can speak for him, more can sing for him, and more still can smile for him. Willing hands will not remain long idle, if wedded to thoughtful hearts and observant eyes.

\*Rev. Henry W. Little.\*

But let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice, Let them ever shout for joy, because thon defendest them:

Let them also that love thy name be joyful in thee.

Ps. 5: 11.

THE Christian indeed is allowed to rejoice where other men rejoice; but he is also bound to rejoice where others cannot.

Dr. Lerov M. Vernon.

O CHRISTIAN soldier! should'st thou rue Life and its toils, as others do, Wear a sad frown from day to day, And garb thy soul in hodden gray? Paul H. Hayne,

DREARY, when the cross doth guide thee,
And thou knowest its wondrous meaning?
Weary, when I walk beside thee,
Thou upon my bosom leaning?
Mrs. A. B. C. Keene.

# Hovember 18

Ye therefore shall be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Matt. 5:48.

TOO low they build who build below the stars.

Edward Young.

HITCH thy wagon to a star. Emerson.

IF you have built castles in the air, your work need not be lost-that is where they should be; now put foundations under them.

Thoreau.

GREATLY begin! Though thou have time But for a line, be that sublime :-Not failure, but low aim, is crime.

Lowell.

What doth it profit, my brethren, if a man say he hath faith, but have not works? can that faith save him?

Jas. 2: 14.

A KIND heart is a better vindication of your doctrine than any argument. Deeds go further than words in justifying your creed.

Jenkin Lloyd Jones.

THE best proof of the divinity of the Christian religion is the daily life of the Christian himself—not his words and professions, but his conduct and spirit; not his Sunday garb and service, but his every day tone; not his church ways, but his home walk.

Bishop Vincent.

It is a great deal better to live a holy life than to talk about it. Lighthouses do not ring bells and fire cannons to call attention to their shining: they just shine.

And as thy days, so shall thy strength be.

Deut, 33:25.

N OBODY has any trouble about living a beautiful Christian life who tries to do it one day at a time.

God lays a little on us every day,
And never, I believe, on all the way
Will burdens bear so deep,
Or pathways lie so threatening and so steep,
But we can go, if by God's power
We only bear the burden of the hour.

George Klingle.

ONE day at a time! That's all it can be; No faster than that is the hardest fate: And days have their limits, however we Begin them too early or stretch them too late. The Lord alone did lead him.

Deut. 32: 12.

THE Lord may lead you around but he will lead you right.

Through all the unquiet years;
Past all our dreamland hopes and doubts and
fears
He guides our steps; through all the tangled

Of sin, of sorrow, and o'er clouded days

We know His will is done;

And still He leads us on.

HE leads us on

I SEE my way as birds their trackless way; He guides me and the bird.

Robert Browning.

But whether we be afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation; or whether we be comforted, it is for your comfort, which worketh in the patient enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer.

2 Cor. 1: 6.

THOSE who have suffered much are like those who know many languages: they have learned to understand and be understood by all.

Madame Swetchine

'T is a strange and solemn thing,
Learning long before your teaching,
Listening long before your preaching,
Suffering before you sing.
And the songs that echo longest,
Deepest, fullest, truest, strongest,
With your life-blood you will write.

Henry Clay Trumbull.

EVERY lesson you shall utter,
If the charge indeed be yours,
First is gained by earnest learning,
Carved in letters deep and burning,
On a heart that long endures.

Frances Ridley Havergal.

He findeth first his own brother Simon, and saith unto him. We have found the Messiah (which is. being interpreted, Christ). He brought him unto Jesus.

70hn I: 41, 42,

CIMON PETER was worth ten Andrews, so far as we can gather from sacred history. and yet Andrew was instrumental in bringing him to Jesus. You may be deficient in talent and yet be the means of drawing to Christ one who will become eminent in grace and service.

Spurgeon.

THE blessed work of helping the world forward happily does not wait to be done by perfect men.

George Eliot.

Know this, too, before you are older, And all the fresh morning is gone: Who puts to the world's wheel a shoulder Is he that will move the world on.

Alice Carv.

For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Rom. 10: 10.

H AD the faith of the heart been sufficient, God would not have given you a mouth. Thomas Aquinas.

EYES were given us for seeing, ears for hearing, the mouth for speaking. Our part is to use each in his service.

HAS God given you a message to the world? Deliver it, and fear not.

Many of us never reach the temple, or even find time to sit down upon the mountain side and gather our congregation about us, but we can teach "as we go."

Rev. J. R. Miller, D. D.

Through him then let us offer up a sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of lips which make confession to his name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

Heb. 13: 15, 16.

THIS is the day chosen and set apart
For us to count the good gifts he has given,
And for each blessing, with a grateful heart
To thank the gracious Father up in heaven.
Susan Coolidge.

A TRUE Thanksgiving should include not only gratitude for what we have received, but for what we have been able to bestow.

THANKSGIVING is a good thing, thanksliving is a better. The one may die in words; the other lives in acts.

Spurgeon.

All chastening scemeth for the present to be not joyous, but grievous: yet afterward it yieldeth peaceable fruit unto them that have been exercised thereby.

Heb, II: 11.

I CANNOT say

Beneath the pressure of life's cares to-day

I joy in these;

But I can say,

That I had rather walk this rugged way,

If Him it please.

S. G. Browning.

And evermore beside him on the way
The unseen Christ shall move,
That he may lean upon His arm and say,
"Dost Thou, dear Lord, approve?"

Longfellow.

So still, dear Lord, in every place
Thou standest by the toiling folk
With love and pity in thy face,
And givest of thy help and grace
To those who meekly bear the yoke.

Not that I have already obtained, or am already made perfect: but I press on, if so be that I may apprehend that for which also I was apprehended by Christ Jesus.

Phil. 3: 12.

BE always displeased at what thou art, if thou desirest to attain to what thou art not; for where thou hast pleased thyself, there thou abidest.

St. Augustine.

WHOSOEVER is satisfied with what he does has reached his culminating point, he will progress no more.

F. W. Robertson.

THE really noble thing about any man or woman is not freedom from all stains of the lower life, but the deathless aspiration which forever drives us forward and will not let us rest in any past, whether good or bad.

I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therein to be content.

Phil. 4: II.

THE common problem, yours, mine, everyone's.

Is-not to fancy what were fair in life Provided it could be,-but, finding first What may be, then find how to make it fair Up to our means; a very different thing.

Robert Browning.

My business is not to re-make myself, but to make the absolute best of what God made.

"They that cannot have what they like, should learn to like what they have." A tough lesson, but well worth learning.

Spurgeon.

# Hovember 29

Consider what ye do.

2 Chron. 19: 6.

"HOW wrought I yesterday?" small moment

To question with vain tears, or bitter moan, Since every word you wrote upon the sands Of yesterday, has hardened into stone. "How shall I work to-day?" O soul of mine: To-day stands on her threshold, girt to lead Thy feet to life immortal; strive with fear; Deep pitfalls strew the way; take heed—take heed!

Augusta Moore.

To-day is mine; I hold it fast,
Hold it and use it as I may,
Unmindful of the shadow cast
By that dim thing called yesterday.
Susan Coolidge.

What thou hast left undone
Is not made whole except thou leave the past,
And do thine utmost with the time thou hast.

Mary Weatherbee.

And thou shalt call his name Fesus; for it is he that shall save his people from their sins.

Matt. 1: 21.

Note: "from their sins," not from the consequences thereof.

Rice.

I'T is sin, not penalty, that is the world's burden. It is deliverance from sin, not from penalty, which is God's free gift to humanity.

Dr. Lyman Abbott.

BESIDES the guilt of sin, and the power of sin, there is the stain of sin.

Culverwell.

OUR sins leave their traces.

Elizabeth Barrett Browning.



Yes, the year is growing old, And his eye is pale and bleared. Death, with frosty hand and cold, Plucks the old man by the beard. Longfellow.

For trees are bare and flowers are gone, And birds have hushed all song. And days are short and sunless, And nights are dark and long, Marianne Farningham.

For ye died, and your life is hid with Christ in God. Col. 3:3.

THERE are many, in the Church as well as out of it, who need to learn that Christianity is neither a creed nor a ceremonial, but a life vitally connected with a living Christ.

Dr. Fosiah Strong.

· The possession of Christ's life is not so much a matter of faith as it is a matter of character. That is to say, the test of this possession is character. A Christian is one who is like Christ.

Rev. L. M. Clarke.

THE real difficulty with thousands to-day is not that Christianity has been found wanting, but that it has never been seriously tried. It is a life to be spent at the feet of a living Master and it justifies itself completely only when it is lived.

Rev. Henry P. Liddon.

What I tell you in the darkness, speak ye in the light: and what ye hear in the ear, proclaim upon the housetops.

Matt. 10:27.

TRUE Christians are always missionary.
Christians, longing to share the blessings of salvation with all about them.

Rev. J. R. Miller, D. D.

If we have the knowledge of a Saviour for all, we shall want all others to have that knowledge; and this it is that makes the missionary spirit that is one of the distinguishing marks of true christianity.

Henry Clay Trumbull.

ALL who have heard the messages of salvation for themselves are called to be "the Lord's messengers," and day by day, as he gives us opportunity, we are to deliver "the Lord's message unto the people."

Frances Ridley Havergal.

I know, O Lord, that thy judgments are righteous, And that in faithfulness thou hast afflicted me. Ps. 119:75.

 $m M^{ISFORTUNE}$  the shadow-side of some good.

MISFORTUNE is never mournful to the soul that accepts it, for such do always see that every cloud is an angel's face.

St. Ferome.

No cloud can overshadow a true Christian, but his faith will discern a rainbow in it,

Bishop Horne.

WE often live under a cloud, and it is well for us that we should do so. Uninterrupted sunshine would parch our hearts; we want shade and rain to cool and refresh them.

Hare.

One thing I do.

Phil. 3: 13.

I T is better to say, "This one thing I do, than to say, "These forty things I dabble in."

Washington Gladden.

This poor one thing I do—instead of repining at its lowness or its hardness, I will make it glorious by my supreme loyalty to its demand.

William C. Gannett.

Do not dare to live without some clear intention toward which your living shall be bent.

Mean to be something with all your might.

Phillips Brooks.

BIND together your spare hours by the cord of some definite purpose, and you know not how much may be accomplished.

Dr. William M. Taylor.

The will of the Lord be done.

Acts 21:14.

THOUGH one but say, "Thy will be done,"
He hath not lost his day
At set of sun.

Christina Rossetti.

The strong man's strength to toil for Christ,
The fervent preacher's skill,
I sometimes wish; but better far
To be just what God will;
No service in itself is small,
None great, though earth it fill;
But that is small that seeks its own,
And great that seeks God's will.

THAT which is often asked of God is not so much, his will and way, as his approval of our way.

S. F. Smiley.

Seemeth it but a small thing unto you?

Numbers 16:9.

WHOSO neglects a thing which he suspects he ought to do, because it seems to him too small a thing, is deceiving himself; it is not too little but too great for him, that he doeth it not.

Rev. E. B. Pusev, D. D.

SAY not "a small event!" Why "small?"
Costs it more pain than this ye call
A "great event," should come to pass,
Than that? Untwine me from the mass
Of deeds that makes up life, one deed
Power shall fall short in or exceed!

Robert Browning.

WE talk too flippantly about "essentials" and "non-essentials" in morals. There are no unimportant things in conduct, no "non-essential" duties.

Jenkin Lloyd Jones.

And let patience have its perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, lacking in nothing.

James I: 4.

PATIENCE, when it is a divine thing, is active, not passive.

Lowell.

QUIET, steady, plodding perseverance day by day is the patience that makes godliness.

Rev. Newman Hall.

Perseverance and patience will accomplish wonders.

OVER and over again,
No matter which way I turn.

I always find in the book of life
Some lessons I have to learn.
I must take my turn at the mill,
I must grind out the golden grain,
I must work at my task with a resolute will,
Over and over again.

Why art thou cast down, O my soul?

And why art thou disquieted within me.

Ps. 42:5.

MAN, what is this, and why art thou depairing?

God shall forgive thee all but thy despair.

F. W. H. Myers.

What doest thou? O weary one,
So hastily despairing?
Thy work for God will not be done;
Whilst he for thee is caring.

George H. Babcock.

THERE is no blessing equal to the possession of a stout heart.

Smiles.

ONE of the greatest hindrances to spiritual life is despair; one of the greatest incentives to spiritual life is hope.

Dr. Lyman Abbott.

And it shall come to pass that, before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear.

Isa. 65: 24.

PRAYER is not overcoming God's reluctance; it is laying hold of his highest willingness.

Archbishop Trench.

Man's prayer and God's mercy are like two buckets in a well—while one ascends, the other descends.

THAT I can pray "Lord help me!" is a proof that he will help me. Because a prayer can be prayed at all, there is certainly a Divine ear hearing it.

William Mountford.

WHEN God inclines the heart to pray, He hath an ear to hear.

Benjamin Beddome.

Then I rose up, and did the king's business.

Daniel 8: 27.

HERE hath been dawning Another blue day; Think, wilt thou let it Slip useless away?

Carlyle.

To-day, whether skies be dark or bright; Make others happy by good deeds of love, Looking to Jesus for help from above.

Hours must not be told by tears. The life that goes in unavailing sorrow goes to waste.

J. G. Holland.

Hours are golden links, God's token,
Reaching heaven, but, one by one,
Take them, lest the chain be broken
Ere thy pilgrimage be done.

Adelaide A. Procter.

For it is precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, there a little.

Isa, 28: 10.

If we would please God we must watch every stroke and touch upon the canvas of our lives; we may not think we can lay it on with a trowel and yet succeed. We ought to live as miniature painters work, for they watch every line and tint.

Spurgeon.

Sours are built as temples are-

Every little helps the much, Every careful, careless touch Adds a charm or leaves a scar.

Susan Coolidge.

Sow an act and you reap a habit; sow a habit and you reap a character; sow a character and you reap a destiny.

And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only, in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in 110 wise lose his reward.

Matt. 10: 42.

I F any little word of mine
May make a life the brighter,
If any little song of mine
May make a heart the lighter,
God help me speak the little word,
And take my bit of singing,
And drop it in some lonely vale
To set the echoes ringing.

If I can stay one heart from breaking,
I shall not live in vain.
If I can ease one heart the aching,
Or cool one pain,
Or help one fainting robin
Unto his nest again,
I shall not live in vain.

Emily Dickinson

And let no chance by me be lost To kindness show at any cost; And, oh, some day, may some one say, Remembering a lessened pain, Would she could pass this way again!

But now complete the doing also; that as there was the readiness to will, so there may be the completion also out of your ability.

2 Cor. 8 : 11.

DO not offer to God a spirit dreaming of the great things you could do, or may do at some future time, but offer to him your wakeful, rejoicing, present energies.

From "Helps by the Way."

THE fact is, that, in order to do anything in this world worth doing, we must not stand shivering on the bank, thinking of the cold and danger, but jump in and scramble through as well as we can.

Sydney Smith.

WE want endeavorers, not undertakers,—people who are always undertaking to do something and never heartily endeavoring to get it done.

Mrs. Young.

And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

Matt. 6: 12.

"FORGIVE our debts as we forgive,"
Ah, who, dear Lord, can pray that prayer?

The rest with ready zeal is said, But self-accused we falter there.

Mary B. Sleight.

WHEN Christ says, "If ye forgive not men their trespasses," he means that the redeemed must be a redeemer; the forgiven, a forgiver; the pure, a purifier.

Dr. Lyman Abbott.

HUMANITY is never so beautiful as when praying for forgiveness; or else when forgiving another.

Richter.

For what shall a man be profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and forfeit his life? or what shall a man give in exchange for his life?

Matt. 16: 26.

HE that loseth gold, through drosse,
Tells to all he meets his crosse;
He that sinnes, hath he no losse?

George Herbert.

God has given men two eyes; if he lose one he hath another. But man hath only one soul; if he lose that the loss can never be made up again.

Chrysostom.

What shall it profit, if you have acquired books and lost the love of reading; acquired influence and lost the joy of usefulness: acquired power and lost the pleasure of service. He that thus gains his life loses it in the gaining. This is an enigma. Ponder it.

Dr. Lyman Abbott.

But desire earnestly the greater gifts. I Cor. 42: 21.

A H, but a man's reach should exceed his Or what's a heaven for?

Robert Browning.

WE can fix our eyes on perfection and make everything speed towards it.

Channing.

WHERE the best things are not possible, the best should be made of those that are.

Hooker.

ONE thing at least is in my power: if I cannot realize my Ideal, I can at least idealize my Real. How? By trying to be perfect in it. William C. Gannett.

He giveth power to the faint; and to him that hath no might he increaseth strength.

Isa. 40: 29.

STRENGTH grows with burdens.

Thomas Wentworth Higginson.

WE grow able to do and bear that which it is needful we should do and bear. Straining up a steep hill, a man's heart will grow stout just in proportion to its steepness.

GOD grant that as our horizon of duty is widened our minds may widen with it; that as our burden is increased our shoulders may be strengthened to bear it.

Dean Stanley.

The Lord hath done great things for us; Whereof we are glad.

Ps. 126: 3.

THERE is ever a song somewhere, my dear,
Be the skies above or dark or fair;
There is ever a song that our hearts may hear.

\*\*James Whitcomb Riley.\*\*

Look upon the bright side of your condition; then your discontents will disperse. Pore not upon your losses, but recount your mercies.

Watson.

THERE'S many a rest on the road of life
If we only would stop to take it,
And many a tone from the better land
If the careworn heart would wake it.

WHEN earth and heaven and all Things seem so bright and lovely for our sakes, It were a sin not to be happy.

Consecrate yourselves to-day to the Lord.

Ex. 32: 29.

WILL you not offer yourself to-day,
While it costs you something to give?
A priceless gift may never be yours
To offer again while you live.

A MAN should lose no time about getting down to earnest work in life.

Robert Collver.

SLUMBER not in the tents of your fathers. The world is advancing; advance with it.

Mazzini.

God has promised forgiveness to your repentance, but he has not promised a to-morrow to your procrastination.

St. Augustine.

God hath already accepted thy works.

Eccles. 9: 7.

IT is a comfort to us that we serve a Master who is willing to make the best of us.

CHRIST is ready to make the best of his people, and takes notice of everything that is pleadable in excuse of their infirmities; so far is he from being extreme to mark what they do amiss.

Matthew Henry.

CHRIST takes the least we offer him with thanks: but, thank God! he is never done with us till we give him the best that is in us without his asking.

But I said, I have laboured in vain, I have spent my strength for nought and vanity: yet surely my judgment is with the Lord, and my recompence with my God.

Isa. 49:4.

HAS every effort made to cheer
Some trembling heart that quaked with
fear,
Seemed labor lost, of no avail?

"Lost labor," thou shouldst never say; No work for Christ is thrown away.

Egbert L. Bangs.

You may not see, I may not know, The deeds to which our kind words grow; But they are never lost, I know.

The good we hoped to gain has failed us—well, We do not see the ending; and the boon May wait us down the ages—who can tell?

And bless us amply soon.

Robert Browning.

That Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; to the end that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, may . . . know the love of Christ which passeth knowledge, that ye may be filled unto all the fulness of God.

Eph. 3: 17, 19.

RELIGION is dwelling in the presence of God until God's own face and features have burned into the soul, and then giving God back again to humanity.

ONE minute for prayer will give us a vision of the image of God, and we think that enough; our pictures are poor because our negative is weak. We do not give God long enough sitting to get a good likeness; we do not acquaint ourselves with him; we do not fill ourselves with his life.

Lone listening to thy words,
My voice shall eatch thy tone,
And locked in thine my hand shall grow
All-loving like thine own.

And the angel said unto them, Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all the people: for there is born to you this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

Luke 2: 10, 11.

HARK! the praising angels say,
Christ was born on Christmas Day
In blessed Judea far away.
Hush! our pleading spirits say,
Christ be born in us, we pray,
And give our souls their Christmas Day.
From the German,

With gentle deeds and kindly thoughts, And loving words withal, Welcome the merry Christmas in, And hear a brother's call.

OPEN thy hand at Christmas-time, Open thy heart to Christmas-chime, Open thy soul to thoughts sublime. He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord. And his good deed will he pay him again.

Prov. 19: 17.

I' is not God or his poor who need our gifts so much as we ourselves need to give. Giving is the sovereign secret of serving, but also of getting and growing.

In this world it is not what we take up, but what we give up, that makes us rich.

Henry Ward Beecher.

"CAN I yield you blessings?" says the friendly heart.

"Fear not I am poorer though I much impart. Wherefore should you thank me? Giving is my need.

Love that wrought none comfort sorrow were indeed."

Lucy Larcom.

So I hated life; because the work that is wrought under the sun was grievous unto me.

Eccles. 2: 17.

OUR moods are lenses coloring the world with as many different hues.

Emerson.

SPIRIT, O! my spirit! Is it thou art out of tune?

Art thou clinging to December, while the earth is in its June?

Hast thou dropped thy part in nature?

Hast thou touched another key?

F. G. Holland,

FINDEST thou in the midst of life's music

A chord that the harmony jars—

A dark thought, a falsehood, an action

That all thy good purposes mars?

Rev. Charles E. Perkins.

And not only idle, but tallers also and busy bodies, speaking things which they ought not.

I Tim. 5: 13.

I HAVE heard men say, "Better do nothing than do mischief," but I am not even sure of that; that saying glitters well but I don't believe it 's gold; I grudge laziness even that pinch of praise; I say it is bad and bad altogether.

Spurgeon.

MEN are naturally tempted by the devil, but an idle man positively tempts the devil.

From the Spanish.

He that labors may be tempted by one devil; but he that is idle is tempted by a thousand.

Italian Proverb.

Some temptations come to the industrious, but all temptations attack the idle.

They go from strength to strength.

Ps. 84: 7.

NO one has any right to suppose that he will do better by and by, unless he is prompt to seize upon means and plans for doing better. Better living and better service do not come by chance; they are the result of thoughtful and earnest effort. We grow as we go.

It is not with a rush and a spring that we are to reach Christ's character, and attain to perfect saintship; but step by step, foot by foot, hand over hand, we are slowly and often painfully to mount the ladder that rests on earth and rises to heaven.

Dr. Guthrie.

O, THINK not future years can give A grace that doth not in thee live, That hath not of thy toil and care Been wrought to make thy spirit fair. Read from the tablets of thy heart Thy destiny in what thou art, And know the promise of the goal Is in the altitude of soul.

Ernest W. Shurtleff.

No man, having put his haud to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.

Luke 9:62.

BUT how carve way i' the life that lies before, If bent on groaning ever for the past?

Robert Browning.

TAKE up thy life-work, thy task renew.

What matters the past and its failure to you?

For thy blended days of cloud and sun

Will bring you at last to the "Kingdom Come."

Jean Gordon.

TRAVEL onward; working, hoping Cast no lingering look behind At the trials once encountered.

Look ahead, and never mind.

LOOKING back is more than we can sustain without going back.

Cecil.

Behold, I have set before thee a door opened.

Rev. 3:8.

I STAND to-night on the threshold
Of a strange, mysterious door,
That silently opes from the year just gone
To the one that lies before.

WHISPER farewell to your doubts,

To follies and faults that you know;
Then open the western door,

With the Old Year, let them go.

Amelia E. Barr

THE year is closed, the record made, The last deed done, the last word said; The memory alone remains Of all its joys, its griefs, its gains; And now with purpose full and clear I turn to meet another year. WHAT'S time? Man has Forever.

Robert Browning.













